MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 FEBRUARY 1981

Jordan

Kidnapped Diplomat--A spokesman for the "Eagles of the Revolution," the group that has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Jordan's charge d'affaires in Beirut, told the Voice of Lebanon radio on 10 February that "the implementation has taken place according to previous statements and despite denials." This group had earlier threatened to execute the charge if its conditions were not met. The previously announced 48-hour deadline for the fulfillment of these conditions expired on 9 February.

Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran told the National Consultative Council that his government had been expecting "sabotage operations" against Jordanian embassies by Syrian organizations for some time and had warned its embassies abroad accordingly. His statement, broadcast by Amman radio, noted that last year Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) in Lebanon suddenly withdrew their guards from the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut. After the move, the charge d'affaires received information from the Lebanese Foreign Ministry secretary general of an impending attack on the embassy by "armed groups." The 6 February attack was carried out "with the help of a large military force," Badran asserted, adding that the cars used in the attack and subsequent kidnapping were allowed to pass through ADF security checkpoints. The so-called Eagles of the Revolution, Badran went on, is the name given by Syria to elements taken from defense squads and special forces used to carry out "crimes" inside and outside Syria. Badran revealed that Jordan had told the Lebanese authorities to take rapid action to secure the charge's release since his fate is their responsibility. If Lebanon is unable to guarantee diplomatic protection, he continued, Jordan will call on all states to withdraw their missions from the country until the return of security and stability. The time will come, he warned, when Jordan will expose Syria's "terror and plotting" to the Arab world.

Following his speech, the National Consultative Council issued a statement carried by the radio, calling on the Lebanese Government and the Syrian ADF to take measures to return the charge d'affaires and arrest his kidnappers. According to another radio report, Jordan's Foreign Ministry contacted the Arab League General Secretariat, calling for serious collective Arab action to deal with such criminal acts. An unattributed Damascus radio commentary described Badran's statement as evidence of his intention to "escalate conspiracy against Syria," calling it a repetition of his "lies and frenzied campaign of rancor." Without alluding directly to the kidnapping, the radio noted that Badran's statement coincided with a campaign of "lies and instigations" by the "Phalangist gang's radio." Commenting on the issue, Beirut radio said the identity of the kidnappers and the whereabouts of their victim are shrouded in "ambiguity." The radio also carried a further denial of involvement and condemnation of the kidnapping by the "Eagles of the Palestinian Revolution."

Borderpost, Ambassador--Voice of Palestine radio, citing Amman sources, reported that Jordan is to "officially separate" its Ar-Ramtha borderpost from Syria. According to AFP, Jordanian Ambassador to Damascus Husayn Hammami has returned to Amman. Neither Jordanian move, however, has been reported by monitored Jordanian and Syrian media.

Arrest of Armed Groups--Jordan has arrested two groups of Syrians, KUNA reported, on charges of attempting to assassinate Prime Minister Badran and to blow up Iraqi commercial offices and the Amman headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood. Citing a report from Beirut by the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, the news agency said that 3 days after the arrest of the Syrians, Jordan's charge d'affaires in Beirut was kidnapped "in retaliation."

Iran

Bani-Sadr on Khomeyni Meeting--Following a meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr told Tehran radio that their talks focused on the situation on the war fronts, the need for "basic unity," a solution to Iran's shortcomings and the country's economic situation. Regarding Iran's need for unity, a frequent theme of Khomeyni's speeches in recent weeks, Bani-Sadr said he told the ayatollah that the "best way to remove differences" is for everyone to strive for victory. He admitted that while Iran's current isolation has made the nation more self-reliant and self-confident, there is also the "bad aspect" of being unable to acquire what is needed from various parts of the world, which has forced the armed forces to concentrate on saving their weapons and avoiding major battles. Regarding the New Delhi Nonaligned Conference, the president said it should not be "innocuous" but must "stand up to the aggressor."

Dwyer Departure--Quoting a Swiss diplomat, AFP reported that U.S. freelance journalist Cynthia Dwyer left Tehran on 10 February on a plane bound for Dubayy. Dwyer, who was ordered expelled from Iran after being convicted on espionage charges, was taken to Tehran airport on 9 February but reportedly was unable to leave because her passport had been confiscated at the time of her arrest last May. The Swiss diplomat said that all administrative difficulties had been resolved.

Gas Ration Withheld--The Petroleum Ministry has announced that the domestic gas ration for February and March will not be delivered until further notice, Tehran radio reported, because of the advent of warmer weather and because the gas is urgently needed for industrial, agricultural and transportation uses.

French-Iranian Relations--Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani has declared that Iran does not intend to sever relations with France because of the French arms deliveries to Iraq and failure to supply Iran with gunboats. Speaking at a press conference reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service Rafsanjani stressed, however, that France has openly violated its stated neutrality in the Iran-Iraq conflict. He also asserted that Iran's military capability will not be affected if it does not receive the French gunboats.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported a "constant" Iraqi artillery bombardment of Abadan and exchanges of fire on the Dezful and Susangerd fronts. Iranian forces repulsed four Iraqi assaults on the Meymak Heights in the Ilam region, the radio said, killing more than 300 Iraqis. An Iraq Armed Forces communique, carried by INA, reported 207 Iranians killed in various engagements over the past 48 hours.

Kurdish Situation

The Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) has warned the people of Kordestan of a "large-scale attack" being prepared by the Iranian Army and revolution guards on 11 February, the anniversary of the Islamic revolution. In a 7 February statement carried by the anti-Iran Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio, the KDP urged the Kurdish people to confront this "treasonous act" and "assault and quickly crush any inhuman raid by the enemies of freedom." The radio reported that Kurdish peshmerga attacked the radio and television stations in Saqqez and Mahabad and also conducted other operations against Iranian forces around Urumiyeh and Naqdeh. According to Tehran radio, the governor general of Western Azarbayjan repeated Ayatollah Khomeyni's call for "counterrevolutionaries" and armed elements in Kordestan to surrender by 11 February or operations against them "will be firmly resumed." In other reports, the radio noted clashes between Iranian forces and illegal armed groups near Kamyaran and Marivan and along the Sanandaj-Kermanshah highway. Acknowledging the Kurdish attack on the Mahabad radio and television station, the radio said that 20 "counterrevolutionaries" were killed in the 5-hour battle.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PALESTINIAN-LEBANESE COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETS

NC061257 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] As part of the effort to unify and coordinate the Palestinian and Lebanese national action, the higher [Palestinian-Lebanese] coordination committee met under brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The committee discussed the Zionist military escalation in south Lebanon in the light of the continuous Zionist military concentrations. It also discussed the necessary measures that must be taken to prevent a repetition of the regrettable security incidents that occurred recently in the southern suburb of Beirut.

The meeting of the higher coordination committee was followed by an expanded meeting of leaders of both the Palestinian revolution and the Amal movement, that was also attended by brother commander Abu 'Ammar and Brother Nabih Birri, the leader of the Amal movement command council. The meeting dealt with bilateral relations and the need to develop these relations [words indistinct] that would serve the Palestinian issue and strengthen the steadfastness of the Lebanese people, especially in south Lebanon, against the continuous Zionist aggression.

PALESTINIAN JURISTS MEET WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS

JN051840 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] A Palestinian jurists delegation has met with the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. The meeting has taken place during the Palestinian delegation's visit to the USSR.

It was attended by Comrade Yevgeniy Vyacheslavovich Ivanov, first deputy chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, secretary of Soviet jurists and secretary of the Soviet-Palestinian Friendship Society.

During the meeting the two sides reviewed the Arab and international political situation in general and the Palestinian issue in particular.

End USSR Visit

JN071858 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Text] A Palestinian jurists union delegation led by Brother Jamal as-Surani, the union's secretary general, has ended its visit to the Soviet Union. The delegation signed a protocol on cooperation and coordination between the Palestinian and Soviet jurists. The signing of this protocol came following fruitful meetings between the Palestinian delegation and several Soviet officials. PLO representative in Moscow Brother Muhammad ash-Sha'ir attented those meetings.

Talks during those meetings also centered on several issues related to the various political circumstances through which the Arab and Palestinian arenas are passing.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION RETURNS FROM YUGOSLAVIA

JN071840 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Text] The Palestinian military delegation led by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Fatah Central Committee member and Al-'Asifah forces general command member, has returned from Yugoslavia.

The delegation is made up of Brother Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], Fatah Central Committee member, and Brother Haj Isma'il, commander of the joint forces in southern Lebanon.

While in Yugoslavia, the Palestinian delegation held a series of successful meetings with the Yugoslav socialist alliance and the federal secretariats for foreign affairs, national defense and internal affairs. The talks dealt with Palestinian-Yugoslav relations and the latest developments in the Palestinian issue on the Arab and international arenas.

The delegation also held constructive and useful military talks with the Yugoslav federal secretary for national defense and his deputies for naval, air and armament affairs. During these talks, the two sides reviewed the possibility of cooperation between the two sides.

General (Radovan), first deputy federal secretary for national defense, stressed that the relationship between the army and the Palestinian forces in developing with great success. He said: Your great people, with their continuous just struggle, have demonstrated a capability that is recorded with pride because they struggle and fight for a just issue.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH LEBANESE PSP LEADER 8 FEB

JN090703 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee [met with the] chairman of the Lebanese nationalist movement's central political council, at al-Mukhtarah yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, and Tawfiq Sultan, Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party Command Council member.

The two sides reviewed the current situation in Lebanon and the area in the wake of the escalating Zionist acts of agression against southern Lebanon.

In a statement after the meeting, brother leader Abu 'Ammar said that the purpose of the meeting was to review the situation in these critical circumstances, particularly in the wake of the Zionist military escalation in the area, and to discuss the general situation in the arena.

Junblatt said that the talks with the Brothers Abu 'Ammar and Abu Iyad had dealt with all Lebanese and Arab issues and that agreement had been complete.

Asked about the compulsory military service announced by the Phalangist Party in Beirut's eastern sector, Junblatt said: It is not surprising that the Phalangist Party takes such a step, especially since it is trying to impose its control over all human potentials so as to expand its political and military influence. If the situation continues, we shall consider it necessary to counter the Phalangist moves by similar ones in order to check the Phalangists' expansion in all areas.

BAHRAIN

PRIME MINISTER CHAIRS 8 FEB CABINET MEETING

GF081821 Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, presided over an ordinary Cabinet meeting today.

In a statement after the Cabinet session the acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs said: The foreign minister submitted a concise report on the [Gulf] foreign ministers conference and the plan to set up a cooperation council of the Arab Gulf states, which was agreed upon in Riyadh on 4 February. The prime minister expressed his satisfaction with this agreement, which unites the Gulf family with a spirit of solidarity. He said he was optimistic that the summit conference of the kings and amirs of the region will bring further assurance and prosperity to the peoples of the area. The Cabinet also discussed ways of strengthening on the international level this important step in the history of the area.

The Cabinet then heard a memorandum from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs on the resolutions of the council of Arab social affairs ministers which met in Tunis.

The Cabinet also heard a memorandum from the Foreign Ministry on the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference scheduled to be held in New Delhi. The Cabinet was informed of the topics on the conference's agenda, particularly the conference's support for Arab causes on the international level.

The Cabinet discussed a memorandum from the Ministry of Works, Power and Water on projects to develop electricity services and the need to channel consumption at peak hours, and the comparison of current tarrifs with the cost of operation and the cost of projects to increase power production.

The Cabinet also discussed other topics on its agenda and adopted the appropriate decisions.

NEPALESE KING ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT 6 Feb

JN061539 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1355 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] Manama, 6 Feb (GNA)--King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal arrived here this afternoon from Cairo on a 3-day visit to Bahrain.

The Nepalese king was met on arrival by Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; His Highness Shayka Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, crown prince and commander in chief of the Bahrain defense force; and several senior Bahraini officials.

The Nepalese king is accompanied by a delegation comprising Foreign Minister K.B. Shahi, Kumar Mohan and Nepalese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Matrika Parsad Koirala.

7 Feb Talks

JN070925 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Text] Manama, 7 Feb (GNA)--Official talks began here this morning between the Bahraini amir, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal.

The talks were attended on the Bahraini side by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of Bahrain's defense force; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of foreign affairs; and other Bahraini officials.

On the Nepalese side the talks were attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs Khadga Bahadur Shahi.

GNA has learned that the two sides reviewed bilateral relations, ways of promoting them in all fields and issues of mutual interest.

The Nepalese king arrived here yesterday on a 3-day visit to Bahrain.

8 Feb Departure

JN080901 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0720 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Text] Manama, 8 Feb (GNA)--King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal left Manama for home this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to Bahrain.

The Nepalese king had held talks with the amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, on ways of strengthening bilateral relations in all fields and on issues of mutual interest.

The Nepalese king was seen off by the amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; and His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of Bahrain's defense force.

KUWAIT

OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS WITH UK'S IAN GILMOUR

LD081016 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0844 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Feb (KUNA)--Deputy British Foreign Secretary Ian Gilmour has said he explained to Kuwaiti officials the EEC's plans for implementing the principles contained in the Venice declaration on the Middle East which the EEC leaders adopted last June. He added the principles contained in the declaration provides vital bases for a comprehensive peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He pointed out that these principles call for Arab acceptance of Israeli security in return for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and acceptance of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Speaking at a press conference at Kuwait international airport, prior to his departure at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Kuwait, Gilmour said the Venice declaration also calls for the PLO's participation in any negotiations for solving the Middle East problem. However, Ian Gilmour reiterated that his government does not plan to recognize the PLO because it does not recognize organizations but states only.

Ian Gilmour said the Balfour declaration giving the Jews the right to establish a homeland in Palestine had nothing to do with the policy of the present British Government. He added the British Government did not recognize the Rhodesian national front prior to its assumption of power in Zimbabwe. All it did, he said, was to supervise the negotiations that led to the signing of the cease-fire agreement last December [as received].

Gilmour was replying to statements made here yesterday by head of the PLO's Political Department ,Faruq Qaddumi who accused British of evading recognition of the Palestinian people by refusing to recognize the PLO.

Gilmour said on his arrival that the PLO has an office in London. But Qaddumi said that reference to the office, which is there as part of the Arab League, does not relieve British of responsibility for complete recognition of the established rights of the Palestine people and their legitimate sole representative, and that Britain was historically responsible for the Palestine people's tragedy and the creation of Israel through the Balfour declaration.

Ian Gilmour refuted the allegations that the European initiative had no independent outlook because it was subject to the U.S. administration's influence. However, he admitted that the EEC alone cannot solve the Middle East problem and neither can the U.S. administration.

The British official met with the amir of Kuwait, and with Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. He also held talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Shaykh Jabir al-'Ali, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sahah al-Ahmad, and Defence Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim. He described these talks as important.

Gilmour added his visit provided him with an opportunity to discuss bilateral relations and ways to develop them in various fields; but he did not reveal the nature of the talks; confining himself to saying the "talks have shown that British relations with Kuwait are good, although there are some difficult problems facing the area which we all face jointly."

Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry sources said the Kuwaiti-British talks covered the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Afghan problem, the results of the third Islamic Conference summit held recently at At-Ta'if, and the establishment of the Arab Gulf cooperation council, as well as energy in general.

The Kuwaiti sources intimated there were differences of views with regard to the Afghan problem. They said British feels it is essential to take a tougher attitude toward the USSR while Kuwait said it defines its position toward this problem within the framework of the Islamic Conference Organization and the Nonaligned Conference which opens in Delhi tomorrow.

IRAQI INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS 9 Feb

LD091152 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Sa'dun Shakir, member of the Revolutionary Command Council and minister of the interior in the fraternal Iraqi Republic arrived in Kuwait at noon today at the invitation of the Kuwaiti Minister of Interior Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, who was among the first to welcome him.

Sa'dun Shakir told the radio and television reporter the purpose of his visit is to discuss promoting the relations between the two fraternal countries, and to discuss the border question and prepare ideas, proposals and viewpoints to submit to his highness the amir of the country and his brother His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. He said he greatly hopes this issue will be resolved on the basis of fraternal relations between the two sister countries. Sa'dun Shakir affirmed that security cooperation between the two countries exists for the common good of the two countries.

AMIR MEETS WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM

LD100938 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0903 GMT 10 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 10 Feb (KUNA)--UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim today had a meeting with the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. It was not officially disclosed what was discussed at the meeting but the UN official said on arrival yesterday that his talks with Kuwaiti officials would take account of the tension and conflicts in the area generally.

Waldheim was obviously referring to the conflict between Iraq and Iran, concerning which a special international envoy was appointed to try and explore ways of finding a solution.

It is believed that the discussion at the meeting also dealt with the Middle East crisis and other international issues and Kuwait's relations with the UN organization.

Dr Waldheim also met with the prime minister, crown Prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah.

Dr Waldheim, who is paying a 24-hour visit before going on to New Delhi to attend the conference of foreign ministers of nonaligned states, said on arrival here that the success of his envoy Olof Palme in putting an end to the armed Iraq-Iran conflict depends to a large extent on the desire of the parties concerned to cooperate with him.

He added that Palme will travel to the area for the third time in the middle of this month to continue his efforts.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAMANI OUTLINES ALTERNATIVE TO OIL WEAPON

LD061308 Kuwait KUNA in English 1025 GMT 6 Feb 81

[By Patricia Kelly]

[Text] Brussels, 6 Feb (KUNA)--Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani warned last night that the Arab countries might have to use force to win back Jerusalem and the occupied territories if the strategy of using oil as a weapon does not work. The minister told an audience of academics and journalists in Belgium that there was no alternative in 1973 to using oil and a means of getting the justice sought by the Arab nation. But he added that force would be used sooner or later if peaceful means do not win the cause.

"We are even prepared to fight and use our blood in order to liberate Jerusalem and Palestine," he said. "Oil is insignificant when it comes to one's life and blood." He added: "We will get Jerusalem back even if it takes 100 years."

Shaykh Yamani said he hoped the new American administration would strengthen its efforts in the area. "We hope the Reagan administration will do all it can to bring about a peaceful settlement in the area which will force the Israelis to leave the occupied territories and give the Palestinians their homeland, state and [word indistinct] their flag and ensure the safety and security of all the people in the area."

He also encouraged European efforts to promote Arab-Israeli peace. "I think Europe is a heavyweight internationally and can really put some pressure on their allies in Washington to be fair and get some peace in there," he told KUNA. "The European initiative is a step forward," he added. Shaykh Yamani was speaking at the end of a study day on Saudi Arabia at the University of Louvain-La Neuve, about 20 miles south of (?Brussels).

The theme of his lecture concentrated on oil and also touched on Islam and the desert which he described as the two other salient factors of Saudi Arabia.

He forecast a world oil glut next summer (1982) which will be extremely heavy if the Iran-Iraq war was ended by then and both nations again begin to produce and export petroleum. But despite a possible reduction in world oil prices he warned the West not to relax conservation policies or research into alternative energy sources or else the price would go up again.

Shaykh Yamani also confirmed that despite the substantial aid that has been channeled into poor and developing countries, Saudi Arabia would not consider a dual-pricing policy for oil--one for the industrialised West and a lower tariff for the Third World. Instead, its excess revenue from oil would continue to be channeled into the Third World in a bid to help countries develop their own (?renewable) energy sources.

Sahaykh Yamani [words indistinct] great faith in a future harmony between the Christian and Islamic worlds. But he said the West should be "more objective" in judging facts.

"The West must reconsider its position from (?the Arab-Islamic issue on the) one hand and Israel on the other, with the objective of becoming impartial and befriending both sides. This would eliminate one of the major causes of the resentment felt by Muslims," he said.

The Saudi Arabian minister also called for some credit to be laid at the door of Saudi Arabia both for preventing real harm to world interests during the 1973 oil crisis and for preventing the (?collapse) of the industrial world after the Iranian revolution and later the Iraqi-Iranian war. In the first case he said Saudi Arabia led the way in which the so-called oil weapon was used. He said Saudi Arabia made sure the use of the oil weapons was confined within the limits of the Arab-Israeli conflict and added: "We prevented any of the harm to world interests that would have ensued had the weapon been used in a manner that was clamoured for by the inflamed emotions of the day."

In the second case Shaykh Yamani said that Saudi Arabia, in collaboration with other OPEC countries, increased oil production after the Iranian revolution and again after the Iran-Iraq war in a bid to prevent the closedown of factories, the spiralling of unemployment figures and the collapse of economic activity. "You must realise what would have happened to the industrialised world had we not done what we did," he said.

UAE

PAPER SEES CONTRADICTIONS IN U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

GF071859 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 4 Feb 81 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] It appears that the new administration in the United States does not know what policy to pursue--a hardline or a flexible policy. Should it preserve international detente or undermine it; should it continue the same U.S. policy of supporting the Zionist entity or show--even though for appearance sake--that it reserves the right of objecting to this or that matter?

We ask these questions in view of the reports that the new U.S. President, Ronald Reagan, has made statements in which he criticized--for the first time--the Jewish settlement policy in the occupied West Bank, describing it as a "provocative" action and not merely "illegal."

If the new U.S. President is serious in his remarks on the arbitrary Zionist policy toward the Arabs of the West Bank then this is undoubtedly a new stand taken by the Reagan administration, which is worthy of our welcome and interest as Arabs who have legal rights in that territory, and requires us to pause and consider our relations with the new administration in the United States in light of this "new" stand.

However, before we go too far with our assumptions, we hear on the same day a statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in which he said: The U.S. Government will view with sympathy any request by Israel to station U.S. forces in Israel. The statement by Reagan's defense secretary should--in legal parlance--the remarks of Reagan himself. [sentence as published] While the President criticizes the Zionists' settlement policy his defense secretary asserts that the U.S. Government is in full sympathy with Israel and that U.S. forces are prepared to be permanently stationed in the Zionist entity.

We are not exaggerating when we say that the U.S. defense secretary's statement yesterday is a clear expression of U.S. policy in the Middle East, a policy that views Israel as one of the states of the United States, or in the words of the new U.S. secretary of state, Gen Alexander Haig, who said on the day before yesterday: Israel represents for us a "strategic reserve" and we should do all what we can to keep it. The broad lines of the new U.S. Government policy are no different from the policies of past governments and will not [sentence as published]

As for the President's remarks criticizing Jewish settlement policies they are no more than "throwing dust in the eyes." We would not be surprised if the White House spokesman should come out today or tomorrow with an apology and an expression of remorse for the President's remarks in order to appease the Zionists and to assure them that Reagan's remarks were no more than a "slip of the tongue" and will not [sentence as published].

Therefore, this is the new U.S. Government's consistent and declared stand toward our cause of destiny, a stand of absolute and unlimited support for the enemy usurping the land.

The Arabs' practical response to this policy is to immediately and truly implement the Mecca summit declaration and the call for jihad with all political, economic and military means.

PDRY

MINISTER CONDEMNS FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN GULF

LD071526 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Aden, 7 Feb (ANA)--Member of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad this morning left for Delhi to attend the conference of foreign ministers from the nonaligned countries which is scheduled to be held there from 9 to 12 February.

In a statement to ANA prior to his departure the minister affirmed the importance of the conference in view of the extremely criticial conditions through which the world is passing. He said that the world was today witnessing a development in international relations and an intensification of the state of tension which poses a threat to international peace and security. He added that this state of affairs stems from the aggressive policy of the imperialist circles which seek to undermine the positive changes in the world and tip the balance in favor of the imperialist powers and deal a blow to the movement for peace and progress in the developing countries which are the principal base of the Nonaligned Movement through harming international detente and detracting from the security of peoples.

Our delegation, he said, will raise at the conference the earlier call made by the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council and prime minister, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, at the third Islamic Conference summit held recently at At-Ta'if for the holding of a summit conference of the Arabian Peninsula countries and countries of the Gulf, Red Sea and other concerned countries to discuss the question of foreign military presence and the threat this poses to the peoples of these countries and their security and stability.

He expressed his confidence that the call will meet with support from all countries seeking peace and progress. He added that the call will save the area from the tribulations of war and devastation and turn it into one of peace, security and stability.

PAPER ATTACKS WEINBERGER, U.S. ON NEUTRON BOMB

LD061640 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] Aden, 6 Feb (ANA)--The PDRY paper 14 OCTOBER has denounced the statements by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger that the new U.S. administration of Reagan is contemplating to reproduce [as received] the neutron bomb and allow its allies to possess it.

The paper writes: While the world peoples have been blessing [as received] and urging the international parties concerned to speed up their work in the field of disarmament and halt the production of any new weapons of destruction as a prelude to complete destruction of arms arsenals and thus insure peace and secuity for all peoples, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger comes to declare that the new U.S. administration of Reagan "is contemplating" to reproduce the neutron bomb and open the markets of its allies for possessing it.

This declaration by Washington, the paper adds, is neither the first nor the last of its kind. For the United States is constantly bent on utilizing the skills and capabilities of its scientists and experts and huge capabilities in the field of armament without ever caring about the evil consequences of this megalomania and the desire to impose domination over the world, its peoples and riches even if this means using the most dangerous means for attaining the selfish objectives of the American monopolies.

The new war secretary, the paper adds, did not forget, however, to direct strong criticism at the "Democratic" administration of President Carter, blaming it for canceling the decision to produce the neutron bomb on behalf of which the capitalist information media launched a major propaganda campaign describing it as civilized since it "only" destroys human beings and thus all man's achievements and civilization remains for the survivors of this quiet holocaust.

The paper adds: It is evident that the American secretary of state has not said anything new.

AS-SADAT LEAVES CAIRO FOR LUXEMBOURG 9 FEB

NC091210 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 9 Feb (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and Mrs Jihan as-Sadat left Cairo at 1300 today for Luxembourg where he will address the European Parliament tomorrow.

The president was seen off at the airport by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, presidential assistants Engineer Sayyid Mar'i and Mamduh Salim, People's Assembly Speaker Scoaopou Talib, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, the deputy prime ministers and ministers, National Democratic Party Assistant Secretary Kamal ash-Shadhili, a number of People's Assembly and Consultative Council members, and armed forces commanders.

The president was accompanied by a delegation including Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, the minister of state for presidential affairs, culture and information, Mansur Hasan, and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz.

Arrival Coverage

NC091644 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic and the Voice of the Arabs link up at 1558 GMT on 9 February to broadcast live the arrival of President Anwar as-Sadat at Luxembourg airport. The airplane transporting the president lands at 1601 GMT. According to the announcer, As-Sadat is given a red-carpet welcome. He is welcomed inside the aircraft by the directors of protocol of the Luxembourg Foreign Ministry and the European Parliament. On disembarking, President and Mrs as-Sadat are greeted by the prime minister of Luxembourg and the president of the European Parliament. As-Sadat then writes a word in Luxembourg city's record and moves to the VIP lounge.

Cairo radio commentator Ibrahim Wahbi then takes the microphone to speak about the significance of the visit and the European initiative. After this, an announcer says that the guard of honor has lined up on both sides of the red carpet.

At 1615 GMT President as-Sadat, his wife and the president of the European Parliament leave the VIP lounge, and, subsequently, the airport, on their way to the guests' palace. The relay then ends without any speeches having been made.

PARIS RADIO INTERVIEWS GHALI ON MIDEAST PROBLEMS

LD091416 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Interview by special Middle East correspondent Alain de (Chalvron) with Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs; date and place not specified--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Minister, there is something like a reunion between France and Egypt. There has been a certain coolness, but now it is warmer. What is the state of relations between Paris and Cairo?

[Answer] I do not share your analysis. I think relations between France and Egypt have always been very good. It is certain that a summit meeting between the Egyptian and French heads of state is an extremely positive element for fresh impetus to the important relations between our two countries.

[Question] What do you think of the European initiative on the Middle East? Are you afraid it might run counter to the Camp David accords? What do you expect from it?

[Answer] We have closely followed the development of the European initiative. Egyptian diplomats have had meetings with the various foreign ministers of the nine and the ten. We met them within the framework of the United Nations.

When the European declaration appeared, it was consistent with the Egyptian diplomatic action. We think the European initiative is extremely important. We would like, however, tc see some synchronization between European diplomatic action and American diplomatic action--insofar as they are allied countries--and it is in our interest to see synchronization between the actions of the two allies, the actions of the two groups of states. There have been extremely important (?achievements). We achieved some important elements following the peace treaty, and it would be harmful in the European initiative not to take into account the achievements gained thanks to the efforts of Egyptian diplomacy. Therefore, what we ask for is synchronization between European diplomatic action. Egyptian diplomatic action and American diplomatic action in order to try to find a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis.

[Question] Do you think Europe can take over from the United States?

[Answer] No, I do not think it is even Europe's intention to take over from the United States; on the contrary, the intention of Europe is to cooperate with the United States to give a new dimension to the action for peace in the Middle East.

[Question] There is, however, a great difference between Europe and the United States: Europe admits to negotiating with the Palestinians, and the PLO in particular was mentioned, while the United States rejects this. There is, therefore, a difference.

[Answer] I do not think there is a difference. As far as I know, the United States is ready to negotiate, to have contacts with the PLO. But they impose preconditions, asking the PLO to recognize the State of Israel before entering into a dialogue with the PLO. There is a nuance between the European position and the American position concerning the PLO, and I think it is easy to come to an agreement, an agreement between the European partner and the American partner in order to have a common position. This would certainly facilitate a solution to the crisis.

[Question] Yes, but you have said a precondition [word indistinct] the result of a negotiation; this is difficult, isn't it?

[Answer] I do not think this is so difficult. I think with discreet negotiations one could easily have contacts, indirect in the first place, between the PLO and the Israelis. Then one would pass to a second stage where there would be indirect contacts between the Americans and the PLO. And all this would be a part of a diplomatic action, and all this makes synchronization between the Egyptian, European and American diplomatic actions necessary.

[Question] In your opinion, do such discreet negotiations exist?

[Answer] I do not think they have already begun. One should wait for the new administration in the United States to settle down and I also think--and this is important --that one should wait for the result of the forthcoming Israeli elections. That said, nothing prevents the various protagonists from preparing themselves, envisaging contacts, and preparing a plan for action.

[Question] What do you expect from this American administration? A relaunching of the Camp David process?

[Answer] Listen, what matters is to maintain the peace momentum. What is important is to maintain the dynamics of peace. What matters is to continue to negotiate, to maintain this dialogue in order to overcome obstacles.

[Question] There is one point on which, no doubt, Egypt and France can come to a rapprochement: the problem of Chad and its project for union with Libya. What are, in your opinion, the intentions of Al-Qadhdhafi?

[Answer] It is difficult to know what Al-Qadhdhafi's intentions are. I think all Libyan action is dominated by insanity. The point at issues is subversion in all directions in various parts of Africa. It is subversion for subversion's sake. What is very grave is that Africa, which needs to be able to concentrate itself on problems of development and economic and social problems, is being destabilized by this continuous subversive action on the part of the Libyan Government. The first point at issue is to make the African public sensitive to this danger. Al-Qadhdhafi was not taken seriously, and was said to be unbalanced. But now it is being realized that what he does is extremely grave. Therefore, first make the African public sensitive to this danger; and second, the OAU--the framework of inter-African political cooperation--should make clear decisions to halt Libyan adventurism and expansionism in Africa. In this respect, France has a certain moral influence on a certain number of French-speaking countries, and we think France will be able to help us in this task.

SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK ON MOZAMBIQUE CONDEMNED

NC071654 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 7 Feb (MENA)--Egypt has announced its condemnation of the racist South African Government's aggression against Mozambique and warned it against continuing its aggressive policy.

Egypt has expressed its readiness to send all kinds of aid that Mozambique might need to confront aggression.

A responsible source has made the following statement: The Arab Republic of Egypt received with extreme concern the reports on the racist South African Government's aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique and the concentration of troops and equipment on its border. The Egyptian Government strongly condemns this aggression and warns the South African Government of the consequences of continuing its aggressive policy. Egypt strongly affirms its solidarity with and support for the Mozambique Government and fraternal people. It also emphasizes its determination to stand by Mozambique to confront the aggressions facing it. Egypt also expresses readiness to offer all forms of aid that Mozambique may need.

NEPALESE KING CONCLUDES VISIT, DEPARTS 6 FEB

NC061044 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 6 Feb (MENA)--King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal, his wife and the accompanying delegation left Cairo this morning at the conclusion of a 6-day state visit to Egypt.

President Anwar as-Sadat and Mrs as-Sadat were at the airport to see off the king and queen of Nepal. The king of Nepal was also seen off by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Consultative Council speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, deputy prime ministers, ministers, members of the escort mission and staff of the Nepalese Embassy in Cairo.

During his visit to Cairo the king of Nepal held discussions with President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat on the international situation, the Middle East question and Egyptian-Nepalese relations. His majesty visited tourist attractions in Cairo, Luxor and Aswan.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 242

JN091655 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1628 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Feb (INA)--Our valiant armed forces inflicted heavy losses on the forces of the racist Persian enemy during their military operations last night and today. Communique No 242 issued by the Armed Forces General Command a short while ago said that known enemy losses were 207 dead and a large number of wounded as well as 6 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 5 vehicles--1 loaded with personnel--3 guns, 2 missile launchers and 2 excavators. The communique said that Iraqi losses were 45 martyred and 1 tank, 1 vehicle, 1 gun and 2 mortars damaged. The text of the communique is as follows:

Communique No 242 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. For the dignity and honor of our great Iraqi people and glorious Arab nation and in defense of our legitimate rights, our valiant armed forces continue to repulse the attempts of the ignorant Magian Persians to attack our positions, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment on them. The outcome of the activities last night and today is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Enemy forces tried several times to attack our units' positions in the Sayf Sa'd area. They were intercepted by our forces and engaged with various weapons. Fierce battles raged during which the enemy sustained the following losses: 163 dead and a large number wounded and 2 tanks and 1 vehicle destroyed. Our helicopters raided enemy positions in the same region, killing 20 and destroying 1 tank, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 vehicle and 1 excavator. All but one of our helicopters returned safely to their bases. The helicopter went down in front of our units' positions. Its two pilots were retrieved and returned safely.
B. Two dead in the Mehran area.
C. Ten dead and one gun destroyed in the Dezful area. Our units found one serviceable Chieftain tank and one serviceable vehicle in the same area that had been left behind by the enemy in previous battles.
D. Four dead in the Shush area.
E. Two dead and one tank, one vehicle loaded with soldiers and one gun destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. Our units found a serviceable TOW missile launcher in the same area that had been left behind by the enemy in previous battles.
F. One tank, one vehicle and one gun destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
G. Six dead and one excavator destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 207 dead; a large number wounded; 6 tanks; 1 armored personnel carrier; 5 vehicles, 1 loaded with personnel; 3 guns; 1 missile launcher; and 2 excavators.

II. Our losses:

A. Personnel: 45 martyrs in all sectors.
B. Equipment: One tank, one vehicle, one gun and two mortars damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 February 1981

BAGHDAD PAPER CRITICIZES IRAQI COMMUNISTS

JN081945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0823 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 8 Feb (INA)--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has described the 8 February 1963 revolution as a distinctive and daring revolutionary act that embodied the people's will, principles and aspirations and crowned the bloody struggle waged by the people against the oppressive and deviate regime and the regional and anti-Arab trends.

In an editorial today, ATH-THAWRAH asserts that the 14 Ramadan revolution [8 February 1963 revolution] represented a pan-Arab and revolutionary reply to the challenges and dangers threatening the Arab homeland at that stage in its history, particularly the imperialist-Zionist challenge. Moreover, it was a strong slap to the suspect regional reactionary forces which aborted the first unionist experiment in the Arab arena between fraternal Egypt and Syria. At the same time, this revolution exposed the truth about the Iraqi communists, who have confronted it since its inception, and unmasked their criminal practices against the people and their treasonous stands against the Iraqi people's will and their legitimate national and pan-Arab aspirations. This outcast clique, which traffics in glowing and mundane slogans, has proclaimed its stand alongside the racist Persian enemy and its unjust aggression against Iraq. It has thus opted for its natural and suitable position, thus reconfirming its hostility and treason to the homeland, the people and the Arab nation and its disavowal of all the national and pan-Arab rights, principles and objectives.

ATH-THAWRAH points out that the agents, adventurers and reactionaries did not give the Ramadan revolution a chance before they succeeded in overthrowing it and implementing the evil apostate scheme of black November [19 November 1963]. Despite its short life of 9 months and a few days, the first Ba'thist revolution achieve a great deal in the form of national and pan-Arab gains and expressed its democratic popular context and its pan-Arab and unionist trends.

Despite the ferocity and violence of the onslaught which the apostate November clique unleashed against the Ba'th Party and its struggling masses and despite its frenzied attempts to liquidate the party and distort its militant history and image before the masses, it miserably failed to carry out its vile designs. The party continued to stand fast, firmly, bravely and capably struggling against and fighting the apostate clique until it erupted its great 17-30 July revolution and scored final and definite victory over the enemies of the people.

AZARBAYJANI DEMOCRATS' STATEMENT BROADCAST

GF091052 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Political statement issued by the Association of Revolutionary Democrats of Iranian Azarbayjan--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Undoubtedly the war between Iran and Iraq has created anxiety in neighboring countries that uphold peaceful coexistence and has led to the death of thousands of innocent Iranian and Iraqi people. In the meantime it has destroyed the national, economic, cultural, social and political achievements of the two countries. It is also obvious that this war is contributing to the interests of the rapacious U.S. imperialists, who have anchored in the Gulf without invitation.

As for the question of who is responsible for the war between Iran and Iraq, the leaders of the struggling Iranian people feel this war is the outcome of fratricidal clashes in Iran coupled with Khomeyni's occupationist views. This war is the result of the occupationist policies of the chauvinist administration of Iran that upholds the illusion of creating a great Islamic imperialism and that has used arms against the [word indistinct] peoples' demand for national sovereignty. In the meantime it has been interfering in the internal affairs of bordering independent states, particularly the Republic of Iraq, which has also been subjected to destructive raids. Therefore, the Khomeyni administration must be regarded as the main cause of the outbreak and the intensification of the war between Iraq and Iran and must be condemned for it.

Despite its chain of failures and futile efforts on the battlefield against the supremacy of the Iraqi forces, and irrespective of Iraq's offer to end the war and resolve difference through peaceful negotiations, the stubborn endeavor of the hypocritical Khomeyni administration--which is being encouraged to continue fighting by imperialist promises--has exposed its warmongering attitude. On the other hand, Iraq's mistake was to support the legal rights of the national minorities [in Iran] and to oppose the bloody policy being pursued against the Kurds and particularly against the Arab people of Khuzestan.

The Association of Revolutionary Democrats strongly opposes those who sow seeds of discord in Iran and use force to order the Iranian people to their deaths by promising them a place in paradise. This association regards such an attitude as being adventurous and calls on the warring sides to stop fighting. It also states emphatically that only the imperialists, Zionists and local chauvinists stand to gain from the war that will eventually weaken and destroy Iran--a country that has won the admiration of the progressive international community for its anti-imperialist revolution--and neighboring Iraq, which has established a reputation throughout the world for being a sworn enemy of imperialism and Zionism and for having the most progressive and enlightened constitution based on socialist principles.

However, this is not all. If the United States is sincere in its impartial stand on the Iran-Iraq war, why is it keeping its military units on alert? The United States and its allies brought these forces into the southern waters of Iran long before the war began. Has not this power pledged opposition to the Soviet Union, which borders Iran on the north? The bitter truth is that the United States has chosen to play with [word indistinct] fire, meaning that it has embarked upon an extremely dangerous adventure that may destroy not only the Middle East but the entire civilized world. It is crystal clear that imperialism's horrifying aim is to undermine the peaceful existence of the peoples in the region by exploiting their political, economic, geographical, religious and other problems by turning them into irreconcilable differences whose settlement would be impossible.

U.S. imperialism's new pretext for its aggression in our region is the war between Iran and Iraq. This agitating imperialist policy and, of course, that of the Iranian administration require that the war be intensified no matter what the cost may be.

In order to eradicate this situation at once, the war that has created tension in the region has to be brought to an immediate end, and the warring sides must resolve their differences on the basis of mutual understanding and friendship under the auspices of the United Nations and impartial bordering countries of the region.

At a time when the war declared on bordering Iraq continues, the Association of Revolutionary Democrats of Iranian Azarbayjan announces that it fully upholds Iraq's peace proposal and believes that it constitutes the best approach to foil imperialism's aggressive intentions and to establish and safeguard peace and (?stability) required for the peaceful development of the peoples in the region. This approach can be regarded as a milestone in the peoples' struggle against imperialism. Under the present circumstances the association reaffirms its belief in the necessity of establishing close relations with the Soviet Union, which is Iran's most developed northern neighbor, Afghanistan and southern Arab states on the basis of mutual cooperation and unwavering unity against the common enemy. It is also supported and inspired by the struggle being waged by the fraternal Azeri, Kurdish, Arab, Baluchi and Fars peoples against imperialism, Zionism and the hypocritical, chauvinist and world-devouring regime in Iran.

KURDS CLAIM ATTACK ON MAHABAD RADIO STATION

JN081422 Baghdad Domestic Service in Surani Kurdish 1715 GMT 6 Feb 81

["A Picture of the Situation in Iran" program]

[Excerpts] Honest Iranians, join your voice to ours in order to overthrow Khomeyni's bloody regime and wrest autonomy for cherished Kordestan. Dear listeners, reports from Iranian Kordestan say that the Kurdish revolutionaries are attaching extreme importance to their armed struggle and are dealing strong blows to the forces of the fascist ayatollahs' regime in Iran, inflicting grave and heavy losses. These reports say that Iranian Kordestan's free peshmergas have besieged the radio and television station in Mahabad. They inflicted heavy material damage on the station and tried to expel the regime's mercenaries from the building. Furthermore, the Iranian press published reports admitting that the Kurdish revolutionaries blocked the road between Urumiyeh and Naqadeh to a military convoy and false Khomeyni guards and opened fire on them, killing or wounding a number of soldiers and guards. Victory to the revolution in Iranian Kordestan for democracy in Iran and autonomy in Kordestan. Death and disgrace to Khomeyni's fascist regime and all charlatans.

ARABISTAN FIGHTERS, YOUTH OPERATIONS REPORTED

30 Jan Operation

JN071258 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Text] Al-Muhammarah [Khuninshahr] 7 Feb (INA)--An official source in the movement of Arab masses in Arabistan has reiterated that the Arabistan fighters will step up their operations against the Iranian regime's installations and personnel so long as this regime continues to disavow the national rights of the Arabistan people. In a statement to the INA team in the southern sector, the Arabistan source said that the Arabistan people reject custodianship and will continue to attack the racist Persians. He added that the Arabistan fighters carried out an operation on 30 January against the Persian enemy in the area across the Karkheh River. He added that the Arabistan fighters had managed to kill 18 Persians, to destroy an armored personnel carrier and to capture a large vehicle, a second armored personnel carrier, 7 boxes containing rocket launchers, 2 boxes containing hand grenades, 5 boxes containing ammunition for G-3 rifles, 7 RPG-7's and 1 G-3 rifle along with its magazine.

Youth 'Struggle'

JN061722 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] The Arabistan youth have escalated their daring operations against the Persian enemy's personnel and establishments, demonstrating their authentic pan-Arab identity. An official source in the movement of Arab masses in Arabistan has told the INA team in the southern sector that in the past 2 days, these youth managed to engage a Persian enemy force and a group of Khomeyni guards in the Haffar area near Abadan, forcing them to withdraw from the area. The source emphasized the Arabistan youth's determination to wage a protracted liberation war against the Persian enemy until all the Arabistan people's national rights and aspirations are achieved. He also asserted the Arabistan revolutionaries' readiness to carry out any combat tasks against the Persian enemy's forces after many of them have been trained on various weapons. He pointed out that through their daily military operations and long struggle, the Arabistan fighters have proven full psychological readiness to bear all difficulties and hardship for their noble objective of liberating Arabistan and restoring it to the Arab fold. He expressed the Arabistan masses' pride in the victories scored by the Arab liberation army, the Iraqi army, under the command of pan-Arab hero President Saddam Husayn. He asserted that all the Arabistan masses are fully ready to support him in the same trench in his holy war against the racist Persian enemy.

BADRAN, OTHERS REACT TO BEIRUT KIDNAPPING

Prime Minister Speech

JN091409 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1231 GMT 9 Feb 81

["Text" of statement made by Prime Minister Mudar Badran in the National Consultative Council on 9 February in connection with the abduction of Jordanian Charge d'Affaires in Beirut Hisham al-Muhaysin--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Mr Speaker, honorable brothers: My statement is divided into three sections. The first section deals with the information received and the measures taken before the attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut; the second section with developments during the attack; and the third section with the measures that have already been taken and those which the government intends to take later.

The Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut had cabled us that the Syrian deterrent forces in Lebanon, whose responsibility it is to guard all diplomatic missions in Beirut, had suddenly and without any prior warning withdrawn their elements guarding the Jordanian Embassy--the ambassador's residence and the offices. The confidential cable which the Foreign Ministry received from the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut reads: Last night the Arab Deterrent Forces withdrew their elements guarding the embassy suddenly and without any explanation. These Syrian forces had been performing this guard duty for the past 4 consecutive years. Regards.

We sent our reply to this cable on 26 November. We also replied early in December, asking the charge d'affaires to request guards for the embassy from the Lebanese security authorities. We then received information that the ruling authority in Damascus was planning attacks on Jordanian diplomatic missions abroad such as assassinating mission members, kidnapping them if possible or blowing up their residences with missiles and explosives.

We immediately relayed this information on 3 February 1981 to all the heads of our diplomatic missions abroad, asking them to immediately contact the host governments to guarantee their safety and to take the necessary precautions to foil these plans. The cable which the foreign minister sent to Jordanian Embassies on 3 February 1981, reads: We expect the Syrian regime's departments to carry out sabotage operations against Jordanian Embassies, including attempts to seize hostages, plant explosives and fire missiles. Therefore, we recommend that you take serious and precise security and administrative measures through coordination with the host countries to forestall such attempts.

The foreign minister sent this confidential cable to the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut. The charge d'affaires replied to this confidential cable the following day with a confidential cable saying: Reference your cable No 148 dated 3 February 1981: All the necessary measures have been taken through coordination with the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry and the director general of Lebanese public security. Regards.

These are the measures that had been taken when we received firm reports that the Syrian authorities would be carrying out operations against our diplomatic missions abroad. As a matter of fact, this explicit information was preceded by other information conveyed to us by the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut. He passed this information to us, citing the Lebanese Foreign Ministry secretary general. The Lebanese Foreign Ministry secretary general had informed the charge d'affaires of the Lebanese authorities' apprehension that some armed groups intend to attack the Jordanian Embassy and other embassies as well as Arab and foreign airline companies with the aim of emptying Lebanon of these important establishments and of harming Lebanon. Therefore, the Lebanese Foreign Ministry secretary general asked the public security forces to station elements to protect these embassies.

The aggression on the embassy occurred at 0130 on Friday. It was carried out with the help of a large military force. All the roads leading to the embassy were cut off. The style used was a military one, not the style of the organizations [as heard]. After the roads were cut off, the embassy was attacked from four sides. When I say the embassy, I mean the ambassador's residence. The ambassador's residence was being guarded by two Jordanian guards and one Lebanese guard. We had similar guard protection on the offices of the Jordanian Embassy. Fire was exchanged and, as we have learned, this exchange continued for a little less than 2 hours. We have also learned that there were security checkpoints operated by the Syrian deterrent force in Lebanon. These cars, loaded with personnel and arms, passed these checkpoints. We have also learned that after the ambassador [as heard] was abducted, these cars again passed these security checkpoints.

We have now ascertained, after the incident took place, that the withdrawal of the Syrian deterrent force from its guard duty on our embassy was to pave the way for the operation that took place on Friday morning. Private 'Abd as-Salam al-Qaralih was martyred and his colleague, a sergeant, was struck by four bullets. He is still in the hospital in a coma. Moreover, the Lebanese element was also wounded and he succumbed to his wounds. The attacking groups left one of their cars behind. That car had been burned and contained the burned body of one of the attackers.

We have also received explicit information that some elements of the attacking forces were wounded and were evacuated after the charge d'affaires was abducted. The attacking forces left behind leaflets saying that this group belongs to the so-called Vanguards of Revolutionary Violence. We know that the Vanguards of Revolutionary Violence and the so-called Eagles of the Revolution are names given by the Syrian regime to some elements taken from the defense squads and the special forces to carry out certain crimes inside and outside Syria.

As for our measures since the incident, we have made the following contacts and measures: The foreign minister summoned the Lebanese charge d'affaires in Amman and informed him of the importance of acquainting his government with the seriousness of the incident and its dimensions and of importance of having the Lebanese authorities undertake rapid action to gain the release of the Jordanian charge d'affaires, who has been abducted in Lebanon from among the Lebanese people; second, revealed the reality of the situation in the Lebanese capital and underlined the deteriorating security situation, the thing which makes it impossible for the diplomatic missions to continue performing their duties under an atmosphere dominated by the power of crime, which is being protected by regular and official forces.

We have also contacted the heads of the Arab and the foreign diplomatic missions to study the steps that can be taken and also the possibility of adopting a unified measure to safeguard the lives of the diplomats in Lebanon and, if such a measure turns out to be impossible, to adopt a harmonious stand among these states until Lebanon restores its free will and its ability to protect its guests and citizens.

In order to expose the crimes and actions that are taking place in Lebanon day and night, we have contacted, and will continue to contact, all international and regional circles to acquaint them with this crime and terror and with the dimensions of the threats to humanity.

We believe that the fate of Jordanian Charge d'Affaires Hisham al-Muhaysin is the responsibility of the legitimate Lebanese Government. If Hisham al-Muhaysin is not returned safely to us, it will be our right to discuss the issue with everyone concerned about ensuring the safety and security of members of diplomatic missions against such fate and at the same hands which have deprived the legitimate Lebanese authorities of their powers and turned Lebanon into an arena for unprecedented crimes, corruption and brigandry. We will contact all countries of the world that have embassies in Beirut to cooperate with us in protecting the lives of the diplomats on Lebanese territory from Syrian havoc. If the Lebanese authorities are unable to guarantee this protection, we will call upon all states to completely withdraw their missions from Lebanon until security and stability return to fraternal Lebanon.

From this place, I want to warn the Arab nation about what is now taking place in this region and about the Syrian authorities' havoc, thus recalling the havoc which was practiced before 1967. The ongoing scenario is the same scenario which was played by the Syrian authorities against the Arab nation and Jordan. [Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic at 1835 GMT on 9 February broadcasts a videotaped version of this address which adds the following: ...This scenario which tore the Arab nation apart in 1967 and divided it into various factions, after which Israel was able to expel the Palestinian people and to occupy all of Palestine as well as new Arab land. I remind you, and we all recall the details of those days. We recall the detonation of the Ar-Ramtha border post and the martyrdom of innocent and helpless citizens then because of the crimes and the havoc of that agent authority, the crimes and the havoc which are repeated now by the same authority. The tragedy is thus repeated against our Arab nation.]

We will not remain silent. We will face this injustice and aggression with all our powers. We will expose and undress the style of terror which is being practiced by the Syrian authorities against the entire Arab nation. We own the power and the proofs, and the time will come when we will expose to the Arab nation and to the entire world the practices, the terror and the plotting of this regime.

This country, under its inspired leader and with the unity of the people in its rural and urban areas, in its villages and cities, in the camps and the desert, stands as one man in the face of this big challenge. This plot will be completely uncovered one day, for it is not only aimed against Jordan but is also aimed against the entire Arab nation and its first cause.

I thank all my brothers in this assembly for giving me the chance to outline all these facts. I hope that they will return to their senses and reasoning. I also hope that Hisham al-Muhaysin will return to his office so that he can continue to carry out the responsibility entrusted to him. Thank you.

Consultative Council Statement

JN091427 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] After listening to the speeches of its members at this morning's session, which denounced the treacherous attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut, the martyrdom of Pv7 'Abd as-Salam al-Qaralih and his comrade the Lebanese security officer and the kidnapping of Jordanian Charge d'Affaires in Beirut Hisham al-Muhaysin; after listening to the prime minister's statement on this ugly crime; and in light of this statement and those speeches, the National Consultative Council [NCC] issues the following statement:

1. The attack on the sanctity of the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut is considered an attack on Lebanon's sovereignty, Jordan's dignity, and human rights, particularly the right to live, and a violation of international law and norms.

2. The NCC demands that the Lebanese Government shoulder its full legal responsibilities in guaranteeing the protection of diplomats on its territory undertaking appropriate measures for the release of the Jordanian charge d'affaires and ensuring that such an attack is not repeated.

3. The night attack on the Jordanian ambassador's residence is devoid of manliness and morals and only harms Arab solidarity; it also benefits the enemy, who has usurped our territory and holy sites.

4. The Syrian ADF withdrew its forces from protecting the Jordanian Embassy, relinquished its responsib.lities in confronting the repeated Israeli attacks onthe sons of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples alike and reneged on its responsibilities to safeguard security and protect property and people in Lebanon, thus forefeiting the right of its presence and the legitimacy of its stay in Lebanon.

5. If the ADF did not take part in arranging this heinous crime, then it is its major responsibility to return the Jordanian charge d'affaires safely to the embassy, search for the criminal executioners and hand them over to justice so that they will receive their just punishment.

6. If the Syrian ruling regime has become bankrupt and lost the trust of its people through its sectarian practices and turning a blind eye to the Israeli threats to the Palestinian and Arab rights, then it can neither convince its people that Jordan represents an external threat, nor can it win Jordan over to changing its true Arab stands. Jordan will remain a bastion of steadfastness, an upholder of every sincere Arab effort and far removed from interference in any Arab state's internal affairs.

7. The NCC supports the effective measures adopted by the government both before and after the incident, particularly in the Arab and international arenas, in order to confront this kind of terrorism. Thus the NCC has decided to send this statement to the Arab League, the Nonaligned Conference, Arab popular councils and international bodies and organizations.

8. The NCC affirms its deep loyalty to his majesty the king and complete support for his wise policy ane true pan-Arab stands. The NCC also sends sincere condolences to his majesty on the martyrdom of the nation's martyr and thanks his Jordanian family for expressing its deep sorrow over the martyr's death. The NCC also lauds the heroism of Al-Husayn's soldiers, their dedication, sacrifices and martyrdom.

Arab League Contacted

JN091247 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] The Jordanian Foreign Ministry today sent a memorandum to the Arab League General Secretariat asking the fraternal Arab countries to carry out a collective serious Arab action to put an end to criminal acts and their perpetrators. These criminal acts are represented by the treacherous armed attack on the residence of Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut Hisham al-Muhaysin which led to his abduction and to the killing or wounding of a number of guards.

The memorandum asserted that such terrorist acts endanger the lives of diplomats in Beirut and menace security and stability in Lebanon. It requested the Arab League General Secretariat to ask the fraternal Arab countries to hold the necessary contacts with the Lebanese and Syrian Governments to ensure the release of Al-Muhaysin as soon as possible.

The memorandum added that the Jordanian Foreign Ministry has asked its envoys abroad to hold urgent contacts with the countries to which they are accredited to explain the criminal attack and its serious consequences and the need to concert international efforts to put an end to international terrorism and to eliminate its causes.

Lebanese Envoy Statement

JN100750 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Feb 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] We publish verbatim and without any comment the following statement sent to us by Lebanese Charge d'Affaires in Amman Michel Bitar:

To the editor in chief of AR-RA'Y greetings: A statement was attributed to me in your issue No 3930 of 9 February. I would like to make the following correction:

1. I cannot hold anyone responsible for the attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut and for the abduction of His Excellency Charge d'Affaires Brother Hisham al-Muhaysin before the completion of the official investigation. What I have said to this end is that the Lebanese authorities are seriously active in seeking to unveil the perpetrators. The Lebanese state is devoting its attention to bringing about the release of the charge d'affaires as soon as possible, sound and unhurt and at any price.

2. I categorically deny that I had held any state or establishment responsible for the incident or that I had mentioned anything regarding the relationship between the organization of the Eagles of the Revolution and a regime of a fraternal country like Syria.

3. The attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut and the abduction of the Jordanian charge d'affaires are first and foremost an attack on Lebanon and are a link in a chain of attempts to strike at the Lebanese legitimacy, to prevent the return of stability to Lebanon and to evict embassies from Beirut. Such efforts are alien to the Lebanese people. It is high time to put an end to their 5-year-long pains, bleeding and tragedies. It is also high time for the Arab brothers to work collectively, sincerely and seriously to save Lebanon.

4. The Jordanian Embassy incident and the abduction of the charge d'affaires are nothing but a mirror image of Lebanon today. Brothers, when will the attack on Lebanon, the shedding of its sons' blood and the abduction of its legality end?

[Signed] Acting Lebanese Charge d'Affaires Michel Bitar

RADIO, PAPER ACCUSE SYRIA OF EMBASSY 'ATTACK'

Amman on 'Sectarian Terrorism'

JN071800 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Station commentary: "No Matter What the Names Are, Accusation Points a Finger at the Leaders of Masked Sectarian Terrorism in Damascus"]

[Text] Dear listeners: Two terrorist organizations have claimed responsibility for the crime of kidnapping the Jordanian charge d'affaires in the Lebanese capital at a time when the oppressor sectarian regime in Damascus has denied that either of the two organizations is responsible for that abhorrent crime. The mere relationship that exists between the sectarian regime and a terrorist organization implicates the rulers in Damascus and exposes their direct participation in international terrorism.

Indicators prove the existence of the fingerprints of the oppressor sectarian clique in Syria on many crimes, distinct from terrorist crimes, known for black rancor and treacherous methods. This is the method that was used to end the Ba'th Party leadership and cadres in Syria. Using this barbaric method, which uses collective liquidation, the ruling sect suppressed the voices of Syrian free men. The rulers try to put an end to any opposition to their regime, which has sunk in a sea of blood.

The sectarian, reactionary and rancorous regime has turned the Lebanese state into an arena for practicing and testing its terrorist capabilities in liquidating enemies. The regime has violated international laws and norms in committing an aggression against the Jordanian Embassy and killing a Jordanian soldier and kidnapping the Jordanian charge d'affaires. This is but one of the pieces of the abhorrent, sectarian and fascist terrorism in the Arab homeland.

The soldier 'Abd as-Salam Salim al-Bararshih was the victim of the sectarian fascist rancor. His martyrdom has put an eternal curse on the bloody terrorism that has become the creed of the oppressor regime in Syria. In the opinion of the fascist regime, the crime of martyr 'Abd as-Salam al-Bararshih is that he belongs to the homeland of freedom and love and is a citizen and a soldier in a state ruled by reason, logic and wisdom, where the flags of the great Arab revolution are hoisted.

The symbols of the fascist sectarian rule in Syria will understand that every Arab citizen is martyr 'Abd as-Salam al-Bararshih and Hisham al-Muhaysin in their rejection of terrorism, collective killing, assassination, physical liquidation and the bloodbaths in which the Syrian sectarian regime is very skillful. History seems to be repeating itself because these practices resemble those of the assassins' movement in Arab history.

The return of the assassins' movement, embodied in the sectarian regime, stresses the danger of this disgraceful phenomenon to the Arab situation and existance. We believe that such a phenomenon is bound to disappear like the assassins' movement and its leader Hasan as-Sabbah.

AR-RA'Y on Syrian Denial

JN090758 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "Who Would Give Damascus the Writ of Acquittal," the newspaper AR-RA'Y says: 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's deceptive and cowardly denial of the Damascus regime's responsibility for the treacherous attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut was expected. In fact, we knew that he would adopt the stand he took yesterday in denying his responsibility and that of his masters for this abominable crime. However, even if Khaddam denied the acts of terrorism and even if he denied the Damascus rulers' involvement in the treacherous attack, the blood of martyr 'Abd as-Salam al-Qaralih al-Bararshih will remain a debt over the head of the Damascus rulers, and the abduction of Hisham al-Muhaysin will continue to disgrace their foreheads. Khaddam will not find a single Arab who would listen to or believe him unless there is a single Arab who would listen to or believe Menahem Begin when he asks for a writ of acquittal for the Dayr Yasin massacre.

Naturally, we are not surprised that the Syrian regime resorts to Zionist methods in denying responsibility for the crime as long as its objectives are the same as those of Zionism. If the dismemberment of Lebanon's land and people is one of the primary Zionist objectives, it is also the sole result achieved in Lebanon since the entry of the Syrian forces.

If the aborting of every attempt to build the unified Arab stand and a single force is a constant Zionist objective, the Syrian regime's criminal act against the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut is only a new step along the road of achieving this objective.

All honorable Arabs support our words to this end. Honorable Arabs are fed up with the Damascus rulers' crimes inside and outside Syria. Hence, we are confident that the writ of acquittal sought by the Damascus rulers through Khaddam's statements will only be issued by their allies in Tel Aviv because they are their sole partners in the crime.

DEVELOPMENTS IN KIDNAPPING OF JORDANIAN DIPLOMAT

Diplomatic Condemnation

NC091907 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] At 1515 today Foreign and Expatriates Minister Fu'ad Butrus received in his home Carlo Furno, doyen of the diplomatic corps in Lebanon and papal nuncio, who handed him the following memorandum:

The diplomatic corps accredited to Lebanon has shown interest in the attack on Jordanian Charge d'Affaires Hisham al-Muhaysin on Friday, 6 February. The diplomatic corps expresses its sympathy with the Jordanian Embassy in Lebanon and strongly denounces this act, which infringes on the principle of diplomatic immunity and on the internationally acknowledged values that the corps upholds.

The diplomatic corps has no doubt that the Lebanese Government will resort to all means available to ensure Al-Muhaysin's release and is fully confident that the government will continue to exert every effort to prevent recurrence of such attacks on diplomatic missions and their members.

The diplomatic corps offers its condolences to the families who lost members during the attack.

Palestinian Eagles' Denial

NC091719 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Feb 21

[Text] A responsible official in the organization calling itself the Eagles of the Palestinian Revolution announced at a news conference in a Lebanese newspaper's offices in Beirut at 1800 today that the organization had absolutely nothing to do with the kidnapping of Jordanian Charge d'Affairs in Beirut Hisham al-Muhaysin. He said that it would not become the ethics of customs of the organization to carry out such an operation.

After denouncing the kidnapping of the Jordanian envoy, he reviewed the statements released on behalf of his organization through certain private media--which he said had replaced the name of his organization, known as the Eagles of the Palestinian Revolution, with the Eagles of the Arab Revolution organization.

'Implementation' of Plan

NC100646 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Feb 81

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon radio has been following up the developments of the kidnapping of the Jordanian charge d'affaires, transmitting various statements from numerous sides claiming responsibility or attempting to rid themselves of it, and has contented itself by passing on the information as it received it.

At 0710 today the Voice of Lebanon radio received a call from a spokesman saying that he was from the Eagles of the Revolution and that the implementation [At-tanfizh] has taken place according to previous statements and despite denials. He added: The security sides must find out the place.

'EAGLES' ISSUE STATEMENT DENYING KIDNAPPING CHARGE

JN100850 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 10 Feb 81

[Text] Beirut, 10 Feb (SANA)--The Palestinian Eagles of the Revolution organization has reiterated that those who are exploiting the abduction of the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut are the new partners in the new Camp David plot.

In a statement distributed here today, the organization said: Despite our categorical denial of our responsibility for this operation and despite our denunciation of the efforts to implicate us in this issue, the hostile radios and mad voices are still attributing this operation to the Palestinian Eagles of the Revolution organization.

The statement adds that those who are exploiting this operation have now found the tools to complete the liquidation of the Palestinian cause by means of modern symbols. The first of these symbols is the head of the U.S. administration. The second is the head of the Jordanian regime who agreed to be the cat's paw in this conspiratorial act, thus following the steps of his traitor predecessor As-Sadat. The statement affirms that the Palestinian national unity inside and outside occupied Palestine is stronger than all these plots.

In conclusion the statement says that the organization will foil the plot and the plotters and will mercilessly pursue those liars who have used the name of our militant organization, the hero of [words indistinct] operation, and will give them the necessary punishment.

JORDAN'S ENVOY LEAVES DAMASCUS WITHOUT EXPLANATION

NC092009 Paris AFP in English 2004 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Damascus, 9 Feb (AFP)--The Jordanian ambassador to Damascus, Husayn Hammami, today left the Syrian capital for Amman, Jordanian Embassy officials here said. No reason for Mr Hammami's departure was given. Informed Syrian sources did not rule out the possibility of Syria taking similar action.

DAMASCUS: JORDAN INTENDS TO ESCALATE PLOTS

JN092024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Amman--Mudar Badran, prime minister of the royal Jordanian Government, today revealed the Jordanian regime's premeditated intention to escalate conspiracy against Syria. Badran repeated his lies and his frenzied campaign of rancor against Syria and its people. He bragged that his government will retaliate with the means at its disposal. He also launched an exposed campaign of instigation against Lebanon. He said that his government will call on all governments to withdraw their embassies from Beirut.

His crazy campaign came at a time when the Phalangist gang's radio offered, as is its wont, to direct a load of lies and instigations against Syria.

Meanwhile, the royal Jordanian regime continues to strengthen its relations with Oman in all fields. Reports from Muscat say discussions took place today between the Jordanian and Omani ministers of agriculture on developing cooperation in all fields. It is well known that the relations between the royal Jordanian regime and Oman and the regime of Saddam Husayn in Iraq have been developed to the extent where, observers say, these relations have reached the stage of alliance.

KILLING OF SADDAM OPPONENT IN KUWAIT CONDEMNED

JN100805 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait--The regime of murderers in Iraq last Saturday night, 7 February 1981, assassinated in Kuwait Iraqi national struggler Dr Jasim Hammadi al-Mashhadani, a prominent leader of the Iraqi opposition against Saddam's puppet regime and a member of the leadership of the Islamic National Liberation Front [Jabhat at-Tahrir al-Watani al-Islami] in Iraq. This mean crime took place on one of the main streets of Kuwait. A car carrying three criminals first blocked Dr al-Mashhadni's way. Then one of the criminals jumped out and fired three shots at the martyr.

The Islamic National Liberation Front and the Iraqi national opposition have issued a statement mourning the late martyr Dr Jasim al-Mashhadani. The statement asserts that the blood of the martyr was not wasted and that Saddam's puppet regime will pay heavily for this crime. The statement pledges that the heroic Iraqi people will continue to struggle and make sacrifices until Iraq returns to the rule of Arabism and Islam and is liberated from the regime of despotism and subservience to imperialism and Zionism. The statement exposes Saddam Husayn's fascist regime, saying it is hostile to Arabism and Islam and allied with U.S. imperialism. This regime, it adds, is implementing U.S. plans against Iraq's Arabism and Islamism as well as against the Arab nation's central issue--the Palestine question.

The late Dr al-Mashhadani was holding a Syrian passport.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES NEW KUWAITI AMBASSADOR 9 FEB

JN091142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] At 1100 today President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Qadir al-Kandari, who presented his credentials as the Kuwaiti ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic. The president and the ambassador exchanged speeches on the occasion. The president and the ambassador then went to the reception hall where they discussed relations between the two fraternal countries.

The ceremony was attended by 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs, and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs. The ambassador was received and seen off with the usual protocol.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES AMAL SECRETARY GENERAL 9 FEB

JN091645 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Nabih Barri, secretary general of the Amal movement, at 1215 today. During the meeting talks centered on the various aspects of the Lebanese situation.

SOVIET PEACE COMMITTEE DELEGATION ARRIVES

JN091715 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--The delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace led by Karlen Dallakyan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a 1-week visit to Syria at the invitation of the national council of the peace supporters movement in Syria. In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Mr Dallakyan said the visit takes place in the framework of the existing relations between the councils of peace supporters movements in the two friendly countries. He reiterated the identical views of both countries on the achievement of just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

ALGERIA

POLISARIO DELEGATION VISITS; COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

LD091336 Algiers APS in English 1133 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Ouargla (south of Algeria), 9 Feb (APS)--A delegation of the Polisario Front led by its Deputy Secretary General M. Bashir Mustapha as-Sayyid arrived here Sunday. The Saharan delegation visited several socio-economic infrastructures before attending a mass meeting.

Mr Salah Kaouane, CC member secretary of Ouargla's Mouhafada (party's political commissariat) evoked in a short speech Algeria's unconditional support to the Saharan people's struggle for self-determination and independence.

The Polisario's secretary general recalled during his intervention, the heroic struggle of the Saharan people under the leadership of Polisario for the recovery of his territory, stressing that he is leading an authentic struggle against King Hassan's crimes in Western Sahara.

Joint Communique

LD100015 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Algeria reaffirms its firmest support for the Saharan cause. Algeria has once again expressed its fundamental position on the question through the words of M. Messaadia, head of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, at the end of a visit to Algiers by a delegation from the Polisario front, led by its deputy secretary general, M. Bashir Mustapha as-Sayyid.

During its official visit to Algeria, the delegation met several Algerian officials including the chairman of the FLN External Relations Commission, Slimane Hoffman.

The joint FLN-Polisario Front communique issued this evening mentions that the FLN party hails the victories won by the Saharan revolution in the military, diplomatic and social fields, pays a vibrant homage to the inexpressible sacrifices made by the Saharan people and bows respectfully before the memory of these martyrs. It reaffirms the total and unconditional commitment of the Algerian revolution alongside the struggle of national liberation being waged by the Saharan people, under the direction of its sole legitimate representative, the Polisario Front, for the complete achievement of its national independence, the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of its state.

The FLN believes that the SDAR constitutes a decisive factor of stability, respect for which is a condition of peace, cooperation and harmony in the region.

The two parties--the FLN and the Polisario Front--energetically condemn the pursuit of the expansionist policy of aggression and extermination conducted by the Kingdom of Morocco against the people of the SDAR in violation of the relevant decisions of international organizations, in particular the United Nations, the OAU and the Non-aligned Movement, and demands the withdrawal of the Moroccan troops from the whole territory of the SDAR.

The two parties--the FLN and the Polisario Front--consider that the most appropriate way in which to end the conflict which opposes the SDAR and the Kingdom of Morocco can only be direct negotiations between the Polisario Front and the Moroccan Government as advocated in particular by Resolution 35/19, adopted by the United Nations on 11 November 1980.

ALGERIA TO HOST SAHARAN STATES MEETING 17-18 FEB

LD061448 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] Within the framework of the structures laid down by the fifth conference of heads of Saharan states and governments held in Bamako in March 1980, Algeria is to host on 17 and 18 February the ordinary annual meeting of the council of foreign ministers of the Saharan states: Algeria, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad. The meeting will strive to prepare an assessment of previous activities aimed at implementing the program adopted by the heads of these states to ensure future tasks. This meeting also will make it possible, within the frame of traditional consultations, to study all issues of mutual interest and of concern to the Saharan groups.

LIBYA

SOMALI SALVATION FRONT LEADER MEETS AL-QADHDHAFI

LD091328 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] The commander of the revolution yesterday evening received Abdallah Yusuf, head of the Somali Salvation Front, which fights against the military bases and imperialist presence in Somalia. The front has intensified its operations inside Mogadishu, causing panic within the circles of the reactionary ruling regime in Somalia.

MAURITANIA

POLISARIO FRONT RELEASES MAURITANIAN PRISONERS

AB070958 Paris AFP in French 0847 GMT 7 Feb 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 7 Feb (AFP)--The last batch of 72 Mauritanian prisoners held by the Polisario Front has been released in accordance with the agreements signed in Algiers on 5 August 1978 between the Mauritanian Government and the Polisario Front. This was learned Friday in Nouakchott. The prisoners returned to Nouakchott the night of 5-6 February. The Polisario had previously released about 200 Mauritanian prisoners in three batches.

MOROCCO

SOVIET-MOROCCAN COOPERATION TALKS REPORTED

LD061523 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 31 Jan 81 p 1

[MAP report]

[Text] Azzedine Guessous, minister of commerce, industry, merchant marine and sea fishing, made a working visit to Moscow from 26 to 28 January 1981 as part of the followup process in Moroccan-Soviet cooperation. This visit took place after the sixth session of the Moroccan-Soviet commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation in Moscow from 3 to 6 November 1980 and follows the implementation of the cooperation agreement on sea fishing, signed by the two countries in Rabat 27 April 1978, which has now been ratified by Morocco.

During his visit to the Soviet Union Azzeddine Guessous had meetings in particular with Foreign Minister A. Gromyko, with whom he reviewed a broad range of bilateral and international issues.

The two ministers placed particular emphasis on the exemplary nature of Morocco-Soviet cooperation which now embraces such varied spheres as the phosphate industry, oil shale export and the fishing sector, and agreed on the need to strengthen this cooperation further.

Azzeddine Guessous and Mr Kamenstev, minister of fish industry, also assessed the conditions for implementing the cooperation program drawn up in November 1980, which comprises:

--Education,
--Scientific and technical cooperation,
--The construction of a fish processing complex,
--The creation of joint companies.

A meeting between the two ministers in the near future will finally launch this cooperation which aims to ally Soviet know-how and technology to the availability of particularly large fish resources along the Moroccan coasts.

ARMED FORCES ADVANCE AGAINST 'MERCENARIES' 6 FEB

LD091328 Rabat MAP in English 1237 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Khreibichat (Moroccan Sahara), 9 Feb (MAP)--In the context of the mission that had been assigned to them, the Royal Armed Forces go on extending their control, strengthening their defense positions and chasing mercenaries.

On February 6, 1981, the Royal Armed Forces built a 10 km defense line beginning from Mhiriz and extended their control to all the heights around Khreibichat.

The mercenaries tried in vain to oppose the advance of the Moroccan forces, but in face of the Royal Armed Forces' coordinated action, the mercenaries fled after heavy losses in men and material were inflicted on them.

Thus 10 vehicles were completely destroyed, and 2 machine-guns and other equipment were recovered. Several mercenaries were killed or injured.

On the Moroccan side three martyrs died and 28 were injured.

SUDAN

MINISTER CONDEMNS LIBYAN INTERVENTION IN CHAD

JN081622 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Feb (SUNA)--Sudan has reiterated its strong condemnation and rejection of the blatant Libyan intervention in Chad. It has stressed its commitment to its principled stand of rejecting the Libyan adventure, which violates the simplest of international laws and the UN and OAU charters and contradicts international principles and objectives that preach respect for states' regional sovereignty and noninterference in their internal affairs.

In a statement to SUNA on the developments in the situation in Chad, Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, minister of state for foreign affairs, said that Sudan believes that only guarantee for removing the dangers in which the fraternal Chadian people are involved is to seriously try to achieve a wholesome national unity in Chad. Muhammad Mirghani stressed that this depends on the total withdrawal of the Libyan forces and on conducting free and honest elections in Chad.

On the results of the Libyan intervention in Chad, Muhammad Mirghani said that the Libyan intervention is not restricted to the geography of that country but represents an intricate regional problem having dangerous repercussions that will harm Arab-African solidarity, which we are trying to achieve.

On the OAU's role in finding a solution for the Chadian issue, he said that the OAU, in its capacity as the comprehensive regional instrument expressing the African people's aspirations for security and peace and prosperity, is capable of playing a pioneering and effective role--a role expressing the collective African will--to give the Chadian people their national unity.

In this regard, the minister of state for foreign affairs stressed that Sudan categorically rejects any bilateral talks on this issue because the OAU is the only framework for dealing with this problem.

Ending his statement, Muhammad Mirghani praised the OAU's efforts and its leading role in handling Africa's issues. He reiterated Sudan's confidence in and support for the organization's efforts aimed at establishing peace and prosperity in Chad and other African regions.

TUNISIA

MZALI TALKS WITH ALGERIA'S ABDELGHANI BEGIN 8 FEB

LD091530 Tunis TAP in English 1404 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Tunis, 9 Feb, (TAP)--Tuniso-Algerian talks started this morning in Tunis with a private interview of Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister, and his Algerian counterpart Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, on a 3-day official visit in Tunisia since Sunday. At the end of the interview, Algeria's premier said to the press that the talks turned on bilateral relations and the positive results they have recorded since the visit of Mr Mohamed Mzali in Algiers last September. He added that, as neighbors, both countries take an interest in what is going on near them and all over the world and pointed out the convergence of the Tunisian and Algerian views on all the questions evoked.

After this private interview, Mr Mzali and Mr Abdelghani presided over the first working session grouping the two countries' delegations.

Tunisia and Algeria reaffirmed their mutual commitment to go on with bilateral cooperation and consultation in order to crystallise their common destiny and face together the challenges of under development.

Drawing a lesson from the events of Saqiyat Sidi Yusuf (small Tunisian village on the Algerian border, shelled on Feb 8, 1958 as a reprisal for Tunisia's support to Algeria in the latter's struggle for national liberation), Tunisia's Premier Mr Mohamed Mzali called for the joining of efforts and potentialities of the two countries in order to go beyond narrow interests and edify strong and fraternal relations.

As an answer to Mr Mazli's address, Algeria's Premier Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani recalled the commitment he entered into with his Tunisian counterpart to meet very often in order to consult one another and try to solve every problem as well as to strengthen the ties of friendship, fraternity and neighbourliness between the two countries.

"By commemorating this date which witnessed the fall of numerous victims," added Algeria's premier, "we are looking back to the past to draw the lesson likely to spare us mistakes in the future." In conclusion Mr Abdelghani pointed out that the idea of the great Maghreb dates back to a long time ago and that the liberation movements of the countries of the region had believed since their creation in the unity of the great Maghreb "which we are building today stone by stone and day after day".

In connection with the commemoration of the Saqiyat Sidi Yusuf events, the two prime ministers inaugurated a joint power station serving the frontier areas of the two countries.

KNESSET ENDORSES THIRD BUDGET OF FISCAL YEAR

TA091830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] With coalition members' votes the Knesset this evening endorsed the third budget for the current fiscal year--7 billion Israeli shekels. At the conclusion of the Knesset debate, Finance Minister Yoram Aridor stated that the Alignment's vote against the budget was tantamount to voting against subsidies for basic commodities, since the additional budget was needed, among other things, to maintain the present level of most subsidies. His remarks gave rise to many interjections from the opposition benches, and our correspondent reported that the atmosphere prevailing in the hall was similar to an election debate.

OFFICIALS OUTLINE POSITIONS ON LEAKED CABLES

Foreign Ministry Official

TA091826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Excerpt] A short while ago Foreign Ministry Director General David Qimhi denied the report that the foreign minister will no longer distribute highly classified cables among the elements that have been receiving this information. However, despite this denial it should be noted that authoritative Foreign Ministry sources revealed today the decision intended to curb the plague of leaks. The authoritative sources emphasized that the decision made by the foreign minister's office is for a limited period.

Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin reacted to this by saying that it was inconceivable that he should go to the Foreign Ministry to scrutinize the secret cables. He said he will talk about this with the prime minister. Professor Yadin will ask the attorney general to conduct an investigation to discover the person responsible for leaking Ambassador Ben-Elisar's cables on his talks with President as-Sadat.

Ambassador to Cairo

TA101140 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 10 Feb 81

[Text] The Israeli ambassador to Cairo, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, has announced that both he and the members of the embassy staff are prepared to undergo a lie detector test to determine who is responsible for the leak of the confidential messages on the ambassador's meeting with President as-Sadat. Dr Ben-Elisar also informed Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin's office that he was in favor of holding the investigation. To recall, Professor Yadin had asked the attorney general to begin investigating the affair and the attorney general's office is currently examining the request.

MAPAM TO CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP WITH LABOR

TA081948 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Feb 81

[Excerpt] By an absolute majority this evening the MAPAM conference decided to endorse its continued partnership with the Labor Party in the upcoming Histadrut and Knesset elections. At the opening of this evening's session, MAPAM Secretary Victor Shem-tov called for a special peace conference between Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Palestinian representatives to give renewed impetus to the political process in our region.

POST POLL IDENTIFIES FAVORED KNESSET MEMBERS

TA100836 Jerusalem POST in English 10 Feb 81 p 3

[By political correspondent Mark Segal]

[Text] Tel Aviv--Labor party Chairman Shim'on Peres has zoomed to the top of the Jerusalem POST poll for the premiership, switching places with Yitzhaq Rabin, who now comes third to Premier Menahem Begin's second place.

Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon leads in the choice for defence minister, followed by ex-minister 'Ezer Weizman, with incumbent Begin mentioned nowhere.

In the choice for foreign minister, Abba Eban and Moshe Dayan top the list, while incumbent Yitzhaq Shamir has lost ground. Former Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz plummeted from his former top rating, with Labor's favorite for the post, Ya'aqov Levinson, on the upsurge, and incumbent Yoram Aridor beginning to make an impact.

From one-third to one-half of the respondents, however, were unable to make a choice in the poll, conducted among a representative sample of 1,273 adults by the Modi'in Ezrahi Applied Research Centre at the end of January.

Question. Who is best suited to be prime minister?

	Jan 1981	Nov 1980
Shim'on	24.6	12.1
Menahem Begin	17.0	22.7
Yitzhaq Rabin	14.5	24.4
Moshe Dayan	5.0	2.6
'Ezer Weizman	2.7	2.7
Yitzgaq Navon	2.4	5.0
Others	6.1	3.9
Undecided	29.7	26.6

According to an analysis of the results, Peres' support was stronger among those groups higher up the socio-economic scale, while Begin can rely on the traditional Herut constituency among the proletarian oriental and religious voters. Peres' election as his party's candidate for the premiership has had a marked influence on Labor Party opinion, doubling his rating to 45.6 percent of Labor supporters, while only 21 percent would rather have Rabin as premier. Significantly, Peres trails Rabin among the floating vote (Rabin--30.4 to Peres--16.6), and Begin (24.9).

Question: Who is best suited to be defence minister?

	Jan 1981	Nov 1980
Ari'el Sharon	22.9	19.3
'Ezer Weizman	19.8	28.4
Hayim Bar-Lev	7.2	3.1
Moshe Dayan	6.4	7.1
Yitzhaq Rabin	4.1	3.5
Mota Gur	2.0	1.3
Others	7.5	6.5
Undecided	30.1	30.8

While Sharon's support and that of Weizman come from the Likud's constituency, Weizman also has an appeal among those higher up the socio-economic scale and among such parties as Labor and Shinuy. Sharon, on the other hand, enjoys support among the NRP and Hatehyia. As indicated above, Begin is nowhere mentioned as a choice for the defence portfolio.

Question. Who is best suited to be foreign minister?

	Jan 1981	Nov 1980
Abba Eban	27.0	25.3
Moshe Dayan	16.3	17.2
Yitzhaq Shamir	8.3	12.0
Hayim Herzog	3.1	1.5
Yitzhaq Rabin	2.2	1.5
'Ezer Weizman	2.0	1.5
Others	5.4	7.1
Undecided	35.7	33.2

Eban enjoys most support among those groups higherup the socio-economic scale, Labor and Shinuy supporters and many undecided voters. Dayan has backing particularly on the right, among voters for the Likud and Hatehiya.

Question. Who is best suited to be finance minister?

	Jan 1981	Nov 1980
Yiga'l Hurvitz	13.4	29.4
Ya'aqov Levinson	10.3	8.2
Yoram Aridor	5.3	-
Gad Ya'aqobi	2.1	2.2
Simha Ehrlich	1.7	1.5
Naftali Blumental	1.4	-
Others	10.8	11.2
Undecided	55.0	47.5

Hurvitz' departure from the Treasury accelerated the gathering decline from the zenith of his popularity when he took office. His successor, Yoram Aridor, has made a respectable showing in his first appearance in the poll, while the ascendancy of Labor's prime candidate, Ya'aqov Levinson, was apparent even before his highly-publicized appearance at last week's Labor Party convention. Blumental, another newcomer, has surfaced following speculation that, like old runner-up Ya'aqobi, he might be Labor's economic steward.

Hurvitz' support came from the traditional Likud constituency, lower down the socio-economic scale and on the right of the party spectrum--the Likud and Hatehiya. Levinson's backing comes from strata higher up the economic and educational ladder and from the centre and the left of the political map--labor and Shinuy.

MA'ARIV COMMENTARY ON ADHERENCE TO CAMP DAVID

TA091651 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Feb 81 p 5

[Yosef Harif commentary: "What Is As-Sadat Worried About?"]

[Text] In their meeting last week, Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat told Israel's Ambassador to Cairo Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar that in his upcoming meetings with the European Community leaders he would make it plain that he "adhered to the Camp David accords" at a time when the European Community's "Venice resolutions [as published]

Prime Minister Menahem Begin also adheres to the Camp David accords, whereas he has referred to the European Community's position--as reflected in the "Venice resolution"--as "a second Munich-like capitulation in our generation."

On the surface, there are grounds for negotiations between the two men. Both of them adhere to the Camp David accords, in contrast to the Europeans, who are entrenched in the belief that there can be no settlement without the PLO. The belief that the Egyptian president is interested in conducting a dialogue with Begin (he said so in his meeting with Hayim Herzog in Egypt; and this was also the opinion Yitzhaq Rabin expressed last week, saying that As-Sadat prefers Begin to Shim'on Peres' "Jordanian option") has been particularly emphasized recently because of the upcoming election campaign.

Well, Jerusalem was "delighted": As-Sadat adheres to the Camp David accords, and he will also tell that to the Europeans! Apparently, it does not take much to prove that, practically speaking, there is nothing to As-Sadat's statement. We shall only have to wait and see a few more days until he has made his speech to the European parliament.

As-Sadat certainly adheres to the Camp David accords. According to the Egyptians, everything they have demanded so far is provided for in the Camp David accords: the partition of Jerusalem--according to As-Sadat, "Arab sovereignty" should be imposed on Jerusalem. The self-governing authority (the autonomy) should include legislative, executive and judicial branches. This demand has been justifiably defined by the prime minister as a demand for a Palestinian state and not for autonomy. In addition, for over 1 year, throughout the autonomy negotiations, the Egyptians demanded that the self-governing authority also set up a security service (secret police); and that the IDF would need its approval to establish bases and to act in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. According to As-Sadat, all this is called for in the Camp David accords and this his adherence to them.

No mention was made at the Cabinet session yesterday of the meeting between Ambassador Ben-Elisar and the Egyptian president and it is good that it was not mentioned. Had there been a report on the meeting, one of the policymakers might have expressed the belief that the meeting had been a "good" one....

It is amazing how sometimes our memory fails us and even people as experienced as Yitzhaq Rabin tend to "predict" that As-Sadat would prefer to conclude the negotiations with the Likud government. No one knows the basis for Rabin's evaluation. If he bases it only on As-Sadat's reservations about the "Jordanian option," then Mr Rabin's estimate may be logical. However, if he merely bases it on the fact that the Egyptian president is attracted by the idea of the autonomy, whereas the Alignment is averse to it, then Rabin's evaluation is astounding. For instance, what can As-Sadat extract from Begin that he has not already gained? Begin has already stated his opinion and even written about it to the Egyptian president: "Does President As-Sadat expect me to renounce my belief that Eretz Yisra'el is the land of my forefathers? With all due respect, friendship and clamness it is my duty to tell him that these are false expectations!"

There are those who claim that the autonomy negotiations may be completed by the elections in June. This is merely a delusion. Can an issue that could not be concluded in over 1 year be finalized now as quick as a wink? Why? Because the Likud wants it? How can the negotiations be concluded when the source of authority for the autonomy continues to be the military government--the Egyptians demand its absolute abolishment--and when the self-administration applies only to the "people" and not to the territories and when the security forces and the IDF still enjoy full authority--including responsibility for internal security--and when the IDF is the only army in the territories that can continue to establish bases as it deems fit, not to mention the right to settle everywhere? Will the other side accept all this as the model of "full autonomy?"

Therefore, if, under present circumstances, the idea of the autonomy--as opposed to the "Jordanian option"--is the only practical idea on which to base negotiations, what else is there to talk about?

There is something to talk about. In his upcoming appearances in Europe, the Egyptian president will not necessarily express what he really feels deep in his heart. In his private meetings with heads of state at the European Parliament As-Sadat will play tunes to please the Europeans' ears, including the need to make the PLO part of the negotiating process "when the time comes." However, As-Sadat also knows, and maybe he knows best--that redemption will not come from Europe. There are grounds to believe that deep inside he sneers at the European leaders who capitulate to the PLO, Khomeyni, Al-Qadhdhafi and others.

The test will not be in Europe but in Washington, where As-Sadat hopes to go in the spring. He has already stated that he regards his relationshp with the United States as "strategic relations" rather than tactical moves. (As-Sadat stated: "There is affinity in our lines of thought and our goals...I am not ready to elaborate until I have personally conferred with Reagan.") Being a sober and experienced politician, As-Sadat realizes that his most pressing problem is neither Israel, nor the settlements nor the Palestinian problem. In this context, it is very interesting to note As-Sadat's recent reply to a question on whether he thought Begin had undermined the peace efforts by annexing east Jerusalem and by continuing the "policy of Jewish settlement in the occupied territories." As-Sadat's response was: "You would be surprised if I told you that I regard these issues, including the question of Jerusalem, as being marginal and secondary...."

Here lies the key. There is something to talk about even if nobody gives up his adherence to the Camp David accords, on the condition that each party recognizes the real limitations of the other.

After all, As-Sadat's problem is not just "another settlement" established by Ari'el Sharon in Judaea and Samaria. His real problem is, for instance, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's settling in Chad--the first step in the realization of the deranged Libyan leader's dream of a "greater Libya" that will include Chad, Tunisia and even Nigeria.

There are indeed signs that As-Sadat is anxious that such a development--he hinted as much in his meeting with the Israeli ambassador to Cairo--would be backed by the Soviet Union. That is why he is looking forward to meeting Reagan as soon as possible.

The genuine concern may pave the way for an understanding between Egypt and Israel. If As-Sadat adheres to the Camp David accords, then there is no difference between Begin's "autonomy" and Peres' "option"; neither of them will redeem us.

The advantage of the Camp David accords lies in their vagueness rather than their clarity. Thanks to this vagueness the normalization process between Egypt and Israel has reached this point. Each party can continue to adhere to the Camp David accords. However, both sides had better not try to clarify anything now. Clarifications will come in due time, within 5 years, at the end of the autonomy period and as the real test of possible coexistence.

PHYSICIAN CONVICTED OF 'SERIOUS ESPIONAGE'

TA091058 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Feb 81 p 16

[Excerpt] The Jerusalem district court has recently sentenced Dr (Guhar Dayj), 32, from Bi'r Zayt, to 10 years imprisonment after being convicted of carrying out serious espionage acts for Soviet intelligence.

The trial was held behind closed doors and only now is the sentence being disclosed. The court convicted the physicial of serious espionage, plotting serious espionage and spying for Soviet intelligence.

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU PRESENTS REPORT TO COPWE ASSEMBLY

LD092110 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 9 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Central Committee's second regular session opened at the COPWE assembly hall this morning to assess the stage reached by our revolution, examine international issues, make appropriate responses in respect of action needed to assure the success of our revolution, and to discuss the implementation of COPWE's first and second short-term guidelines and plans. The session of the COPWE Central Committee, which is the forum for the organization, education and development of the political culture of the workers, was chaired by our revolutionary leader, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and COPWE and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, who presented a general report defining the issues requiring priority treatment and the application of appropriate solutions by our revolution.

In an address to open the session, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam said: In addition to being very difficult and complicated, the length or brevity of the period of time needed for the transition to socialism varies in every country in accordance with the stage reached in the development of the means of production, due to capitalism's pattern of uneven development.

He explained that wherever the means of production are at a very low level of development it will take a long time to bring them to a very progressive socialist state. Our communist leader said that the most important tasks to be carried out within a transition period of such a nature include accumulating, allocating and distributing resources. He also described as very important the tasks of developing the suppressed means of production, reconstructing the economy disrupted during the period of tense class struggle and laying down the material and technical foundations for the process of reconstruction, adding that increasing productivity requires a highly-disciplined work force prepared to make great sacrifices.

In his general report to the COPWE Central Committee's second regular session Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam dealt in detail with the stage of development reached in the economic, social and defense spheres by the Ethiopian revolution during its transition to socialism from a very backward stage.

Recalling all the basic steps taken by our revolution during the past years toward eliminating economic oppression and exploitation, our communist leader said the revolutionary forces have made great sacrifices in this respect in their struggle against reactionary forces in the countryside, the cities, the east, the west, the north and in the south. Noting that, side by side with the armed struggle, great efforts have been made to lay the foundations of the new system on which to erect a sound organizational structure to strengthen the socialist sector of the economy, Comrade Mengistu said: We cannot claim that the economy has developed as rapidly as was hoped--the cause of which lies in the tension and the complicated struggle we were confronting--the efforts made in the past years, including the first 4 years of bitter struggle, were nevertheless not insignificant.

He went on to brief the meeting on serious economic problems brought about by various factors in spite of the tasks of construction carried out over the last 2 years in the context of a campaign designed to achieve accelerated economic development, the solution of burning economic problems within society, the gearing of the economy toward a more socialist course and the laying of a foundation for our long-term development.

In his report on the social situation our communist leader said: Though the struggle we are waging to change the ugly reflections of our feudal heritage is showing great results, much still remains in view of the gravity of the problem. He disclosed the great significance given by the revolutionary government since the eruption of the revolution to revolutionary agitation and the expansion of education in an effort to make the Ethiopian masses attain full independence and equality based on prosperity. Such goals are to be reached by pushing on with the literacy campaign, which has gained international fame and is our national pride, thus giving the young generation the necessary knowledge, and by intensively implementing the country's educational plans in conformity with objective reality.

Efforts to protect the health of the broad masses should be further strengthened, developed and intensified in time since the situation is now favorable--in particular the eradication of communicable diseases which are hazardous to the health of the workers.

Since decreasing unemployment and its total eradication should not be viewed separately from our efforts to build our economy, our communist leader announced the way to diminish and eradicate unemployment should be determined through economic development. Our communist leader emphasized that although the deployment of unemployed fellow citizens in productive activities is helpful in lessening the problems of the unemployed, the fact that these people are participants in economic development is given high credit; thus the effort to engage the unemployed in production should be taken seriously and a quick solution should be found to the unemployment problem.

In his report on national defense, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam noted that, due to the weak state of military readiness of the previous feudal regime, Ethiopia was initially faced with a serious problem of military inadequacy and thus was not in a position effectively to maintain its territorial integrity in the face of external aggression. However, he continued, despite international reaction's continued attempts to disrupt the progress of our revolution and imperialist machinations to drag us into their fold, our revolution has proven its ability to withstand any subversive move through the selfless sacrifices of the gallant revolutionaries of Ethiopia. He said that though the development of a strong and reliable defense force is a continuous and long-term process which should be accompanied by viable and healthy economic growth, in view of the external pressures on our revolution and territorial integrity it should be accorded the utmost priority. He reiterated that the effectiveness and reliability of any defense force depend on the discipline and training of its members, the quality and quantity of the various weapons at its disposal, and its efficiency and expertise in the use of training and weapons provided.

Continuing his report on the same issue, the comrade chairman noted that the success of our revolution and the attainment of our socialist objectives depend not only on the members of the armed forces but also on the concerted efforts and revolutionary commitment of all other conscious and able-bodied Ethiopians. The revolutionary forces should be drawn from among the working masses of Ethiopia. This measure ensures the continued role of the working class as the vanguard of the revolution. This objective will be realized through the introduction of compulsory military service for all eligible young people in the country.

The comrade chairman further noted that military service will be based on the love and respect which young people have for their revolutionary motherland and the revolution. After disclosing that modern weaponry and warfare are not limited to inflicting damage only at the war front, our communist leader further emphasized the need for general alertness and vigilance. He added that while our major objective is to strengthen our defense capability we will still continue to pursue our struggle for the maintenance of international peace.

After reviewing the socioeconomic situation in the country by underlining positive progress made as well as weaknesses in those areas, the comrade chairman reiterated that the only course of action to correct the social, economic and political ills and guarantee the success of the revolution is the establishment of the working party of the Ethiopian people. After noting that Ethiopian Marxist-Leninists have vowed to realize this revolutionary objective under the umbrella of COPWE, he pointed out that the organization should prepare itself for such revolutionary tasks through periodic assessments of social, economic and political realities and by defining proper revolutionary guidelines to enable it to coordinate overall social progress with objective realities in the country.

The comrade chairman also submitted a detailed report on the political and economic achievements of COPWE since its formation.

The comrade chairman also disclosed that COPWE's relations with communist and workers parties, progressive organizations and liberation movements--in short, with all those who struggle for freedom, friendship, justice and democracy--are based on the principles of proletarian internationalism.

On communist discipline the comrade chairman reported that true communists should examine their past experiences, drawing lessons from their failures and strengthening morale through their achievements. Any organization which does not assist members in the exercise of criticism and self-appraisal cannot serve its revolutionary purpose. In the light of this, our communist leader noted that COPWE has been taking the necessary corrective measures to rehabilitate all its members who, due to lack of adequate political consciousness, experience and certain personal weaknesses, were manifesting indiscipline. However, he went on to say, some members who were found to be incorrigible were punished. Two Central Committee members and an individual member of a regional executive body, two alternate members and another member of a regional executive body and one executive member of COPWE were dismissed from the organization for serious breaches of discipline, the manifestation of reactionary tendencies, and leadership weaknesses respectively.

The communist leader went on to say that the strength of a political organization depends not on the number of its members but on their quality, the respect members have for organizational guidelines, ideological and organizational unity and discipline. Comrade Chariman Mengistu added that Marxism-Leninism is not like a mark that one wears as the insignia of one's faith but rather an instrument of struggle and life, adding that a member's dedication to the ideology is measured not by the quotations he utters, and urged that members who divide their lives between organizational work and their personal affairs desist from such acts.

Comrade Chariman Mengistu Haile Mariam also submitted to the session a detailed and accurate report on international imperialism's antifreedom, antijustice and antipeace nature, the revolutionary struggles waged by peoples of the world against colonialism, exploitation and misery and the victories they have won. In this report the comrade chairman stated that in the era of imperialist supremacy, capitalists strengthened themselves with the help of the abundant material wealth they expropriated and the forcible exploitation of human labor and subjected the peoples of the world to economic backwardness and poverty, using the curtailment of political rights as a means of fighting against the struggle of peoples for their rights.

However, he continued, despite attempts by imperialists to hinder the forward march of world history by using neocolonialism, military might and other means, the forces that determine the direction of social progress are socialist forces. He added that U.S. imperialism, which is unwilling to learn from the annals of history, has made the building of military bases, the deployment of highly sophisticated missiles, and the formation of the Rapid Deployment Force its current major task in a bid to guarantee the continuation of the system of international exploitation and oppression.

The chairman recalled all the intrigues and aggression launched by international imperialism against socialist Ethiopia in a bid to turn the people of Ethiopia from the correct path of social progress which they had chosen and to bring the masses back into their system of exploitation.

Speaking on Ethiopia's foreign policy, the chairman said that as our revolution is part of the world socialist revolution, giving aid to freedom fighters and other anti-imperialist struggles will be one of the major tasks of our revolution, adding that regarding relations with neighbors, socialist Ethiopia will pursue the correct policy of peaceful coexistence which it has followed to date.

TRADE AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH SOVIET UNION, FRG

LD071926 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The Governments of the FRG and socialist Ethiopia today signed a cooperation agreement under which the FRG will provide socialist Ethiopia with 9 million birr assistance for the implementation of three horticulture-related projects. The assistance to be provided by the FRG is to be used for the implementation of projects involving food and vegetable processing, the training of waterworks personnel, and an extension of the on-going project of expanding [words indistinct] of Ethiopia.

Meanwhile, a trade protocol agreement for 1981 has been signed here between the USSR and socialist Ethiopia this morning. According to the agreement, the USSR will purchase Ethiopian agricultural products such as coffee, sesame and haricot beans, while Ethiopia will buy industrial products.

TIGRE LIBERATION FRONT CLAIMS MILITARY VICTORY

LD012120 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrina 1500 GMT 1 Feb 81 EA

[Text] According to reports reaching us from Tigre, on 27 and 28 January 1981, the heroic fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front launched a lightning attack on fascist Dergue forces reconnaissance mission at (?Tegen), killing and wounding over 65 enemy soldiers. Among those killed was a lieutenant.

Over 14,000 peasant and worker Tigreans (?in different) parts of Tigre have held peaceful demonstrations in support of the democratic distribution of land being undertaken by the Tigre People's Liberation Front.

SOMALIA

RADIO KULMIS INTERVIEWS SSF LEADER ON SUCCESSES

LD091542 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 8 Feb 81 EA

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, we congratulate the Somali masses on the end of the second year since the formation of the Somali Salvation Front [SSF] when the Somali people resolved to liberate the masses from hardship and shame imposed on them by the terrorist gang of the hyena of Garba Barre. Here with me tonight is Colonel Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmad, acting SSF chairman, whom I am going to question on issues about which many Somalis may be asking themselves and from whom many would like to hear some brief replies. These questions are:

1. What brought about the formation of the SSF?

2. What are the aims of the SSF's struggle and what does it hope to achieve for the Somali people?

3. What successes has the SSF so far achieved on the battlefield against the terrorist gang?

4. What does the SSF hope to achieve during the new year we have just begun?

Those are the four questions I should like to ask Col Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmad. Colonel:

[Abdullahi] Thank you, Sulayman. Before I reply, I wish to greet the entire Somali masses, particularly those liberators who have been struggling since the inception of the SSF, on this second anniversary of the formation of the SSF and the start of the third year of our existence. I also wish to tell the Somali masses that, God willing, by the time we celebrate our third anniversary the misery we are experiencing now will be a thing of the past. That is because, if we consider the state of the struggle, we can say it is excellent to the extent that, God willing, we shall win before the year is out.

Last night I was listening to Siad deceiving himself that he can stay in power. He was talking about what he described as the revival of the revolution, something I can only term as an attempt to survive, because bringing back the army to exercise direct rule can be nothing but such an attempt. You all know what compelled him to take this step: The success of the SSF's struggle and the Somali masses being in sight of victory. The victory the Somali masses can see ahead of them certainly represents a tragic blow for Siad Barre's terrorist gang regime.

Going back to your questions, Sulayman. The first one was what brought about the formation of the SSF? That is a question every member of the Somali masses is pondering. The answer is very simple. For more than 11 years the Somali masses have been in a disastrous state, ruled by a dictatorship with the evil fascist blood-sucker's heel on their necks, a regime which has ruined their lives, property, dignity and nationhood. He has subjected them to suffering and shame unparalleled even during the colonial era.

The armed forces, supported by the masses, made several attempts to stage a revolution to save the Somali people from these hardships. Unfortunately, all these attempts failed. Then, when it became apparent that the dictatorship would not change its ugly policy and that the Somali people would not continue to tolerate its rule, the Somali intellectuals, soldiers and masses had to convene a general meeting. They discussed the country's unsatisfactory state and accordingly resolved to wage an armed struggle to rid Somalia of Siad Barre's ugly fascist regime, which ruined the Somali people at gunpoint. An organization with a military wing, the SSF--which many Somalis call Kulmis--was thereupon formed. When the Somali people's freedom and dignity have been restored, they will be able to decide their own future and lead a progressive and prosperous life under a democratically-elected leadership.

As to your second question, Sulayman. I think the reply to your first question adequately covers it.

Now to your third question, on the successes achieved by the SSF. There are too many of these for me to cover all of them during this brief interview. I shall, however, mention just a few, which I am sure the Somali people are already aware of.

The Somali people are now totally opposed to the Siad regime, while the SSF enjoys international recognition and support. In the military field, SSF soldiers have been properly trained and armed. In their engagements they have inflicted heavy human and material losses on the Siad troops.

As to your last question, on what the SSF hopes to achieve during the third year since its formation, this is, I think, a very important question which requires a detailed answer, but it is also a rather difficult one because I do not want to disclose any plans which the enemy might take advantage of. I will, however, briefly say that the SSF intends to intensify its struggle in all fields and during this year it aims to liberate the Somali people from Siad Barre and his terrorists who have [words indistinct].

[Question] As you know, Colonel Abdullahi, Radio Mogadishu last night broadcast terrorist Siad's address closing a short seminar at the police academy for members of the armed forces whom he appointed commissioners to our country's districts and regions. In the address, he told them to keep directly in touch with him and inform him about political matters in their respective districts and regions, to fight what he called counter-revolutionaries, and to adopt strict measures in the country's defense and security to suppress opponents of his regime. He also referred to their duty to promote economic development, social welfare and recreational activities. As chairman of the SSF, Colonel Abdullahi Yusuf, how do you interpret all this?

[Answer] Thank you, Sulayman. In fact I heard Muhammad Siad Barre's address to those who were appointed leaders in the districts and regions and who are actually armed forces officers. First of all, Siad Barre's address, his appointees and everything he calls the revival, amount to nothing but a manifestation of his fears. I do not expect him to achieve anything but failure.

The salient points of his address included, as you have just said, orders to keep directly in touch with him by way of regular monthly reports. [words indistinct] Don't we all know Siad Barre? What progress? What development? The people have nothing to eat; they are being buried by the hundreds. Even in the capital, Mogadishu, the people have nothing to eat. In the black market, a kilogram of sugar costs--when it is available--more than 200 shillings. Macaroni and rice--the staple foods--are not to be found. Siad Barre has fed to the armed forces the livestock on whose meat and milk the Somali people used to subsist. He has rounded up all the people in camps and labelled them refugees. He intends to finish them off in those camps.

There is nothing for you [the district and regional commissioners] to report on. Do not obey his orders. As soon as each of you is paid your salary, join the Somalis who are struggling against Siad Barre. Join them in the armed struggle against the killer, who is inciting you against your people and thus acting to bring about your demise in disgrace.

UGANDA

VICE PRESIDENT HAILS TANZANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF

LD081508 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 8 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has hailed the role played by Tanzania in the liberation of Uganda and warned that the government will not allow anybody to abuse the good relationship existing between the two countries.

Speaking at a dinner held at the Imperial Hotel in honor of the visiting chief of staff of the Tanzania People's Defense Forces [TPDF], Lieutenent General Msuguri, the vice president stressed the need for Ugandans and Tanzanians to realize that they are one. Mr Muwanga said the liberation of Uganda was a result of priceless sacrifice on the part of Tanzanians and expressed special gratitude to Lieutenent General Msuguri for the humble contribution he made to the liberation of Uganda.

The commander of the Uganda defense forces, Maj Gen Tito Okello, on behalf of the forces, also paid glowing tribute to the lieutenant general for his contribution during the liberation war. Colonel Ogwang, on behalf of the Uganda defense forces, presented gifts to Lieutenant General Msuguri. The dinner was attended by senior officers of the TPDF and Uganda defense forces.

Earlier, the commander of the Uganda defense forces, Maj Gen Tito Okello, gave a reception at the Nile Mansions in honor of Lieutenant General Msuguri. It was also attended by the vice president in his capacity as minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga; the minister of information and broadcasting, Hon Dr David Anyoti; the minister of state of defense, Mr Peter Otai; and the commander of the 15th battalion, Lt Col (Bazilio Okello).

MINISTER APPEALS FOR AID FOR WEST NILE REGION

LD070208 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 6 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The minister of rehabilitation, Mr Masete Kunya, has said that his ministry requires a minimum of $4.5 million to rehabilitate the infrastructures in West Nile and to feed the people starving in areas affected by the war started by Amin's bandits. Mr Masete Kunya was giving a press conference at the International Conference Center, during which occasion he launched an appeal to all UN agencies for relief aid for West Nile. He said that when Amin's thugs attacked the area, the inhabitants dispersed and fled to neighboring countries. He added that 120,000 people have so far returned but need immediate help. The minister appealed to the World Food Program to provide assistance in the form of blankets, food and cooking utensils to people in West Nile.

As a supplement to the UN agencies, the minister solicited aid from sympathizers, channelling it through the minister of rehabilitation. He also said his ministry which is the coordinator of the rehabilitation program in the country, estimated about 100,000 hoes to be availed to the people in West Nile in productive areas in order to enable the people grow their own food. [sentence as heard] Mr Masete Kunya told the newsmen that he will avail five trucks to transport goods to West Nile. The press conference was also attended by minister of supplies, Dr Moses Apilga, of labor, Mr Butele, the deputy minister of industry, Mr (Bandananya), and the MP for Arua north, Mr Sam Kenyi.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON SECURITY OPERATIONS

LD092140 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The government has issued a statement explaining the reasons for last night's security operations which partly arose as a result of the cold-blooded murder of a policeman at one of the police stations in Kampala by a group of armed bandits. The statement, which was released by the minister of internal affairs, Dr Lumwuliza Kirunda, reads thus: Peace and calm, which had prevailed for several weeks in the country, was interrupted a few days ago. Certain groups of people took advantage of the lifting of the curfew and the absence of road blocks to regroup lawless elements and to import deadly arms into the country.

Over the weekend several police stations and police posts in Kampala and elsewhere were attacked by these elements, and in some cases suspects under police custody were released. There has also been an attempt by these elements to release Amin's ex-soldiers now detained at Luzira. At Kawempe police station a police constable was murdered on Monday morning, 9 February 1981 at around 0400, and a second lieutenant of the (?Ngulia) barracks was also shot dead in the early hours of today. Places where these people are still organizing and regrouping have been identified and have been visited by security forces.

The security forces have recovered a large number of arms and ammunition. Already some people are helping the security forces with their investigations. The public is requested to remain calm and to report any suspicious movements of persons in their areas to the nearest police station or chief.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESCHEDULED FOR 15 MAR

AB091735 Paris AFP in French 1047 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Bangui, 9 Feb (AFP)--The presidential election, which was officially scheduled to take place on 1 March, will finally be held on Sunday, 15 March. Meanwhile, the closing deadline for candidates initially set for 8 February has been pushed back until 22 February at midnight. This was learned on Monday from reliable sources in Bangui.

It is believed that this decision, made over the weekend by President David Dacko after consulting opposition leaders, was prompted by practical difficulties.

The timetable for municipal and legislative elections will be drawn up in such a way that it will facilitate respect for democratic rules and will permit the free participation of all political parties or organizations. These elections should be held before June 1981, so that they will not disturb the upcoming economic campaign.

In the CAR capital, where the idea of a united front comprising opposition parties seems less and less possible, political leaders are holding consultations and preparing themselves.

The CAR head of state said a month ago that he would run for president, but it is not yet known when he will officially become a candidate.

The opposition leaders have remained completely silent. However, many observers believe that Henri Maidou (Republican Party for Progress) and Ange Patasse (Central African People's Liberation Movement) will soon announce their candidacies.

Since last December's national seminar of reflection, which was attended by all active citizens of the nation, about 10 political parties have been announced. Few of them are, however, tempted by the presidential election due to a lack of material and financial resources.

Thus, it is expected that only the leaders of the three major CAR political groups will contest the election. They are David Dacko (Central African Democratic Union), Henri Maidou and Ange Patasse.

According to CAR's constitution, the president of the republic is elected for a 6-year term through universal sufferage. He can only be reelected once. It is noteworthy that all candidates must be 35 years old, must be CAR citizens and must pay a deposit of 5 million CFA francs.

GABON

BONGO RETURNS FROM PERSIAN GULF, KENYA VISITS

AB091206 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Excerpt] His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the republic, returned home yesterday satisfied with the trip he made to the Persian Gulf area and East Africa. In an interview accorded to the press yesterday morning, the head of state described the three stages of his trip which took him first to Ta'if, then to Jiddah, Kuwait and finally to Nairobi. In Ta'if, he took part in the third Islamic Conference summit whose main aim was to close the ranks among Muslims and help Muslim minorities in certain countries. In Jidda, Kuwait and also in Nairobi, it was mainly a question of strengthening the relations between these countries and ours. Let us listen to the head of state:

[Begin recording] Before going to Kenya, we made a stopover in Kuwait where we held discussions on the cooperation which should exist between our two countries. To understand our point of view, the amir of Kuwait has decided to send an economic mission to Gabon to enable the Kuwaiti authorities to see our projects, evaluate them and see in what ways Kuwait can participate in the development of Gabon.

In Kenya, we talked about the establishment of diplomatic relations between Kenya and Gabon; we also raised the question of extending our two national airlines, namely Air Gabon and Kenya Airways, to our capitals. [End recording]

ZAIRE

MPR SECRETARY RETURNS FROM VISIT TO CAIRO

AB061355 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 6 Feb 81

[Text] Citizen Kithima bin Ramazani, the permanent secretary of the Central Committee of the MPR, returned to Kinshasa after a 2-week official visit to Cairo, Egypt, where he led a delegation of the MPR at the invitation of the Egyptian National Democratic Party. On his arrival at the international airport, Citizen Kithima bin Ramazani was welcomed by his close associates.

BRIEFS

ANGOLAN, YUGOSLAV ENVOYS--President Mobutu Sese Seko this morning received the credentials of Angola Ambassador Kamu d'Almeida and Yugoslav Ambassador Alexander Stanie. [Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 5 Feb 81 AB]

CAPE VERDE

GOVERNMENT WANTS TO PROMOTE RELATIONS WITH U.S.

AB091357 Paris AFP in French 1303 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, 9 February (AFP)--Cape Verde intends to promote and strengthen its relations with the United States with the coming into power of President Ronald Reagan, said Mr Aristides Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde, in an interview with Cape Verde radio monitored in Dakar.

Mr Pereira, who is also secretary general of the African Independence Party of Cape Verde (PAICV), also stressed that the messages he sent recently to various African and European heads of state were aimed at explaining why his country decided to create its own political party after the coup d'etat in Guinea-Bissau, a country with which it used to share the same political party, the PAIGC [African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde]. He revealed that the symbols (anthem and flag) of the PAICV would continue to be the same as those of the PAIGC but that a committee was currently examining the question.

Asked about the Guineans who arrived in Cape Verde after the coup d'etat in Guinea-Bissau, President Pereira stated that his country was prepared to welcome them on condition that they did not undertake any subversive political action against Guinea-Bissau there.

GHANA

GHANA-ANGOLA JOINT COMMISSION MEETING OPENS

AB091530 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] A 3-day meeting of the Ghana-Angola Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation opened in Accra this morning. In his speech, the deputy minister of foreign affairs, (Dr Philip Acquah) observed that permanent joint commissions are generally recognized as excellent forum for the exploration of a full range of bilateral possibilities opened to nations. (Dr Acquah) said the problems facing the people of Ghana and Angola need urgent solutions, and he called on experts at the meeting to formulate programs related to the specific needs of their people. He hoped the two countries would cooperate on measures to insure equity in a new international economic order.

(Dr Acquah) noted that considering the longstanding and deep-rooted friendship that has existed between Ghana and Angola, the meeting should afford the experts the opportunity to further strengthen relations and help develop collective self-reliance for the progress of the Third World.

GUINEA-BISSAU

EX-PRESIDENT CABRAL TO BE RELEASED 'BEFORE JUNE'

AB091314 Paris AFP in French 1150 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, 9 February (AFP)--Former President Luis Cabral of Guinea-Bissau, who was overthrown on 14 November 1980 by a coup d'etat, will be released before June, announced Col Manuel Saturnino da Costa, the Guinea-Bissau minister of interior to the Dakar daily newspaper, LE SOLEIL, during a stopover in the Senegalese capital.

LE SOLEIL quotes Mr da Costa as saying that Mr Luis Cabral will be released regardless of the conclusion of the present inquiry into his administration.

According to LE SOLEIL the minister also pointed out that the former head of state was presently living with his wife and children in a healthy environment which has nothing in common with a prison atmosphere.

NIGER

CABINET RESHUFFLED; THREE NEW MINISTERS NAMED

AB091500 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] There has been a cabinet reshuffle marked by the departure of four ministers and the appointed of three new ones. The list of the new cabinet members of our country--read by the minister of information, Mr Mahamadou Halilou--is as follows:

[Begin recording] The president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, President Seyni Kountche, decrees:

Article No 1: The Transitional Government of the Niger Republic has been reshuffled as follows:

President of the Supreme Military Council, head of state, and minister of national defense	Col Seyni Koutche
Minister of finance	Quartermaster Tondi Moussa
Minister of youth, sports and culture	Maj Adamou Djermakoye Moumouni
Minister of public health and social affairs	Amadou Seyni Maiga
Minister of interior	Tandja Mamadou
Minister of national education	Capt Youssoufa Maiga
Minister of mines and industries	Mahamane Annou
Minister of justice	Alou Harouna
Minister of planning	Brah Mamane
Minister of higher education and research	Garba Sidikou
Minister of hydrology	Yaya Tounkara
Minister of foreign affairs and cooperation	Daouda Diallo
Minister of information	Mahamadou Halilou
Minister of civil service and labor	Mr Issoufou Mayaki
Minister of public works, transport and urbanism	Oumarou Diallo
Minister of commerce	Hamid Algabid
Minister of posts and telecommunications	Abdou Malla Moussa
Minister of rural development	Dr Ari Toubo Ibrahim
Secretary of state for national education	Modieli Amadou

Article No 2: The present decree supersedes decree [words indistinct] will be published in the official paper of the Republic of Niger. [end recording]

NIGERIA

UNITY PARTY LEGISLATORS WALK OUT IN PROTEST

AB091650 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] A report says that members of the Unity Party of Nigeria, UPN, in the House of Representatives staged a walkout when the house resumed sitting this morning. As a result, only members of the other four parties took part in today's deliberations. A Radio Nigeria correspondent said that the action was a climax to a series of steps which the members have so far taken to demonstrate their disapproval of the procedure by which the revenue allocation bill was passed into law.

This initial form of the (?protest) was the nonobservance by UPN members of the regulation of the House requiring the legislators to stand up when the speaker, who symbolizes the authority of the legislature, enters or leaves the chamber.

MINISTER EXPOSES 'THREAT' TO KILL OFFICIALS

WA100730 Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 23 Jan 81 p 32

[Excerpt] A minister has alerted the nation of a plan to kill all ministers including himself and some legislators.

The Minister of Mines and Power, Alhaji Mohammed I. Hassan, made this death threat known yesterday in Lagos at a press conference.

He said the appropriate security authorities had already been alerted to take precautionary measures.

Alhaji Hassan also stated that he had received information that members of the Senior Staff Association of the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA), in collaboration with certain politicians intended to cause a total black-out for the nation at the end of this month.

He said the plan had political undertone and when asked by the newsmen to give names, Alhaji Hassan declared: "If I am squeezed, I will release the documents."

The minister commented further: "This threat involves the continuity of the Federal Government. I cannot get something like this and keep quiet."

PRESS VIEWS GENEVA CONFERENCE, STUDENT ACTS

AB0911131 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Press Review]

[Excerpts] The NEW NIGERIAN writes on the failure of the Geneva conference which was to prepare plans for the independence of Namibia and wants the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, to intensify its armed struggle. The paper urges all African nations, particularly Nigeria and the frontline states, to increase their material and moral assistance to aid the organization in the nationalist war.

The NEW NIGERIAN thinks that the attitude of the Western nations coupled with South Africa's intransigeance on the matter show that they do not care for the southern blacks in the racist enclave. The paper believes that their dependence on the mine minerals of South Africa has always made it impossible for the Western nations to put up a genuine fight for the independence of the territory.

The DAILY STAR writes on the closures of the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and the Bayero University, Kano, as a result of student demonstrations. The paper points out that university students have these days accepted violence, rampage and riot as means of expressing their disapproval or objection to any issue. While the paper concedes with students the right to demand for better conditions, it believes this should be done in a more civilized and mature manner.

SENEGAL

PRESIDENT DIOUF MEETS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS

AB100756 Paris AFP in English 0722 GMT 10 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, 10 Feb (AFP)--Senegalese President Abdou Diouf conferred with the leaders of three opposition parties here Monday and assured them he would continue and expand his government's open door policy in domestic affairs.

Mr Abdoulaye Wade, whose Senegalese Democratic Party has 15 seats in the 100-member National Assembly, said Mr Diouf had promised to study carefully his demands for a return to a secret ballot, the drafting of a democratic electorial code, freedom to found political parties, impartial reporting on the state radio and television, and end to intimidation of his party's MP's and other matters.

He said he had told Mr Diouf he did not believe there was democracy in Senegal because the country had never had genuine elections.

The government has to date authorized four parties: the ruling Socialist Party of Mr Diouf, who succeeded President Leopold Senghor last month; Mr Wade's democratic party; the Marxist African Independence Party and the rightwing Senegalese Republican Movement.

Mr Diouf also conferred Monday with Mahjemout Dioup, secretary-general of the African Independence Party and Boubacar Gueyen, secretary-general of the Senegalese Republican Movement.

Neither party has any seats in parliament.

SIERRA LEONE

STEVENS SAYS FINANCIAL IRREGULARITIES FOUND

AB092050 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2010 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Statement by President Siaka Stevens in Freetown on 9 February--recorded]

[Text] My dear people, I regret I have to inform you about the discovery of some serious interference with government finances. These irregularities are being investigated by the police just now.

For the present, suffice it to say that for last month alone, January 1981, a total of 576 checks of 500 leones value each to the total value of 288,000 leones were presented to and cashed by the Central Bank without authentic supporting documents.

BRIEFS

MALIAN 1981 BUDGET--The National Assembly of Mali this morning adopted the 1981 draft budget. The expenditures total 85,178,839,000 Malian francs while the receipts amount to 79,600,832,000 Malian francs. This shows a deficit of 5,578,007,000 Malian francs. Presenting the budget, the minister of finance said that due to several increases in oil and manufactured goods prices, salaries and wages have been increased and the increment has been taken into account in drafting the budget. [Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 3 Feb 81 AB]

IDA LOAN TO UPPER VOLTA--A loan of $16 million has been granted by the IDA--affiliated with the World Bank--to Upper Volta for the financing of some projects including an agricultural project. This IDA loan is repayable in 50 years. [Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 4 Feb 81 AB]

MOZAMBIQUE

PRESIDENT MACHEL RETURNS FROM TANZANIA, ZAMBIA

LD082156 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 8 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Samora Machel, the president of the Frelimo Party and of the People's Republic of Mozambique, returned to Maputo this evening after visiting Tanzania and Zambia. In the two countries the Mozambique leader met the respective presidents, with whom he held talks.

The Mozambique delegation included Marcelino dos Santos, a member of the party Central Committee for economic policy; Mariano Matsinhe, the minister of interior and minister resident in Sofala Province and other officials.

BRIEFS

FRENCH AMBASSADOR RECALLED--Samora Moises Machel, president of the Frelimo Party and of the People's Republic of Mozambique at the presidency in Maputo this morning received Paul Blanc, French ambassador in Maputo, who availed himself of the opportunity to bid the president farewell, having been recalled to his country. During their meeting President Samora Machel and the French ambassador exchanged views on the implementation of the cooperation agreement between Mozambique and France. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 5 Feb 81 LD/EA]

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH WINDHOEK LEADERS

LD091348 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Feb 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and other members of the Cabinet and senior government officials have concluded a series of talks in Cape Town with political leaders from South-West Africa. No official statement was released after the talks, which centered on the Geneva conference last month, its outcome and the road ahead. In an interview with the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Mr Botha said in reply to a question about a government of national unity that no definite proposals had been made and no decisions had been taken. He said the purpose of the talks had been to give the South African Government and the parties in South-West Africa the chance to exchange views about the future after the Geneva conference.

SCHOOL BOYCOTT IN CAPE PENINSULA CALLED OFF

LD091050 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 09 Feb 81

[Text] The boycott of black schools in the South African cape peninsula has been called off subject to certain conditions. Chairman of the Peninsula Community Council Mr (Bill Lubowana) has confirmed that the decision was taken at a meeting of the parents and teachers' action committees in Guguletu. One of the main conditions was that the 12,000 children should be supplied with books.

ZAMBIA

LUSAKA REPORTS ON MACHEL'S STOPOVER IN ZAMBIA

LD091530 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Feb 81 CA

[Text] Mozambique President Field Marshal Samora Machel left for home this morning after a night's stopover from Dar es Salaam, where he held talks with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere. Mr Machel, who was accompanied by Madame Grace Machel, arrived in Lusaka yesterday leading a high-powered delegation which included members of the Central Committee of the ruling Frelimo Party. Field Marshal Machel was seen off at the airport by President Kaunda, Madame Betty Kaunda, Prime Minister Mr Daniel Lisulo, Secretary of State for Defense and Security Mr Grey Zulu, members of the Central Committee and Cabinet ministers.

Last night Dr Kaunda hosted a dinner for the Mozambique leader and the two presidents later had private talks at State House. Briefing the press at the airport this morning, President Kaunda's special assistant for press, Mr Milimo Punabantu, described the visit as private. He, however, said that the visit gave an opportunity to the two presidents to hold bilateral talks and brief each other on regional issues. President Machel also briefed Dr Kaunda on the recent South African raid on an African National Congress refugee camp in Mozambique where 13 people were reported killed.

NEW MINISTERS, OFFICIALS SWORN IN BY KAUNDA

LD101126 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 09 Feb 81 CA

[Excerpt] President Kaunda today attacked people who criticize the party unconstructively and called on Zambian journalists not to be used as instruments of destroying Zambia. Dr Kaunda said the party has allowed people to (?criticize) but that this must be done constructively without destroying the nation. The president said this in Lusaka today when he swore in Minister of Legal Affairs and Attorney General Mr Gibson Chigaga; Minister of Labor and Social Services Mr Basil Kabwe; Provincial Political Secretary Mr (Franklin Malau); and Permanent Secretary for the Minister of Finance Mr (Fred Kazunga). Others sworn in were Inspector General of Policy Mr Fabiano Chela; Commissioner of Police Mr (Henry Nzunga); Bank of Zambia Governor Mr Vitwell Kuwani; principal at the Cabinet office, Mr (Felix Mwanga); and Executive Officer Mr (Paul Samamba).

BRIEFS

TRAVEL RESTRICTION--The Zambian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a statement saying it is tightening travel restrictions on diplomats. The statement said that diplomats are now required to give a month's notice for permission to travel to the copperbelt. It said it hoped the envoys would comply with the new order. [Text] [Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 7 Feb 81 LD/CA]